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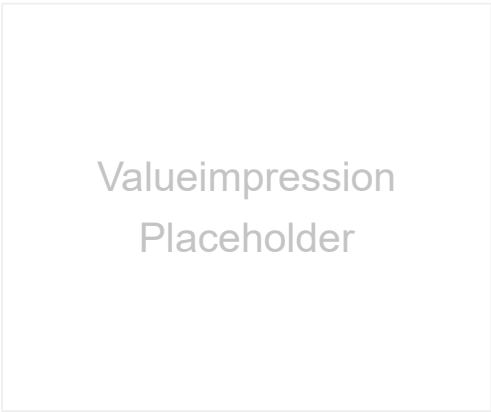
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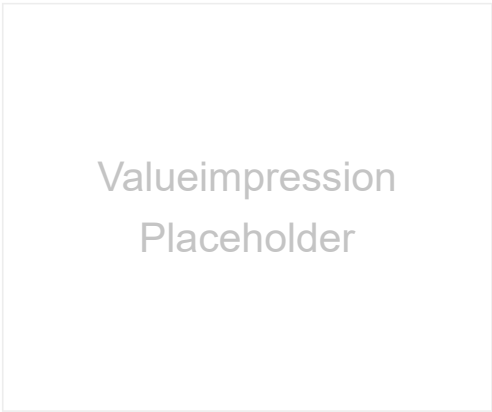
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Jim Woodring

A  
FRANK  
COMIC

# Weathercraft



Fantagraphics Books



Poor old Manhog! He lives in a pile of rubbish on the outskirts of the Unifactor, shunned by all the other denizens of that unpredictable realm of wonders. His diet is just horrible—he eats whatever he can grind between his molars and get down his gullet. He lies, steals and kills without so much as a whinny from his conscience, if he has one. No doubt about it, he's utterly reprehensible!

Perhaps that helps explain why it is possible to look on with a certain equanimity as the corpulent wretch endures the torments of the damned in the opening act of this fascinating and enlightening comic book. For there are no two ways about it; in *Weathercraft* Manhog suffers as you've never seen him suffer before; and if you've read very many of the renowned *FRANK* stories that precede this volume you know he's already suffered plenty!

So, is Manhog's agony what this book is all about? Is *Weathercraft* just another onslaught of unrelieved misery, another illiterary ordeal? Well, you'll just have to buy the book and see for yourself, won't you?

Hey, wait! Come back here! What is your problem, anyway? Oh, it's *my* problem, is it? Well, you may be right at that. I don't want to give you the whole book



I don't want to give away the whole show here on the inside dust jacket, but maybe I'm being too coy. So I'll tell you this much:

In *Weathercraft* Manhog not only discovers what is wrong with him, he undergoes several lifetimes' worth of elucidation in just a few hours. Unfortunately this insight comes in the wake of a catastrophe which he unwittingly unleashes upon the Unifactor when he attempts to destroy the universal nemesis Whim. The secret of Whim's unexpected rebirth is as shocking as it is natural; a botanist could explain it. But things go to hell in a major manner, that's for sure. Will Manhog clean up after himself for once? That's the big question here.

The nameless itinerant crones who give the story its title with their subjective manipulation of the unseen forces that govern the Unifactor have an awful lot of fun bringing glory out of chaos, and you will too! No effort has been spared to load the scaffolding of this wordless\* tale of misery, enlightenment and amnesia with as much browknitting whimsy as it can hold!

\*Almost.



# Weathercraft







Jim Woodring  
Fantagraphics Books  
2010

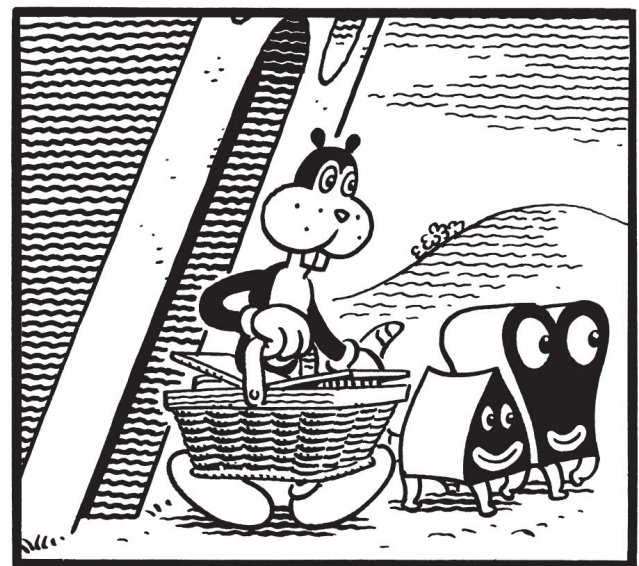
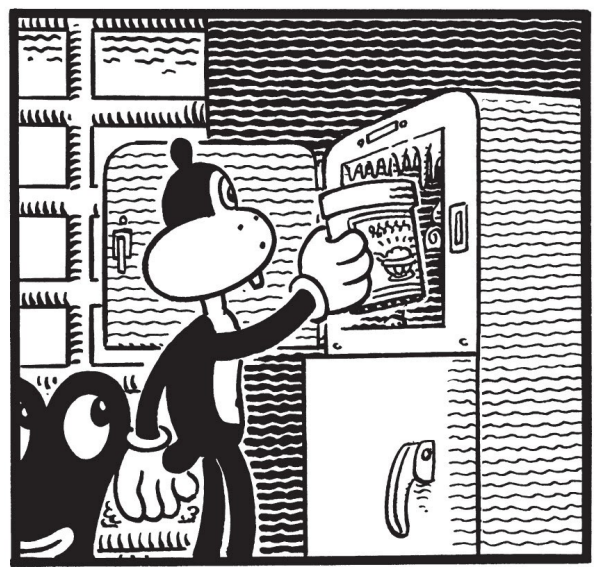
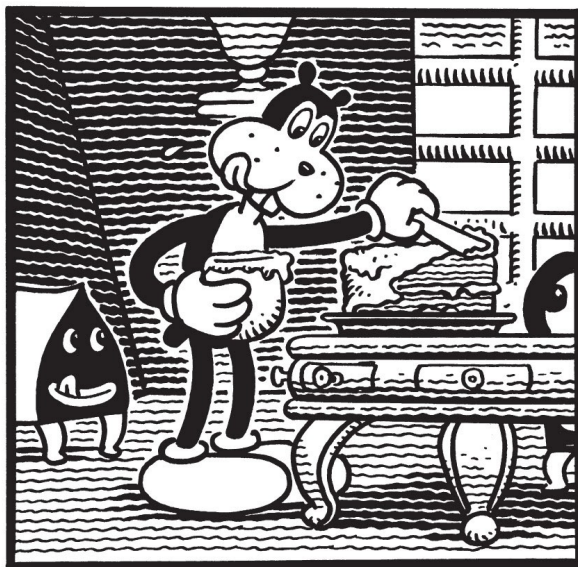
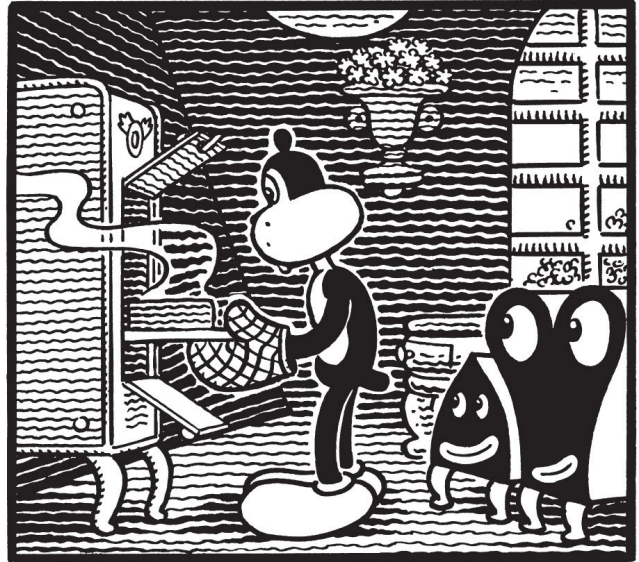
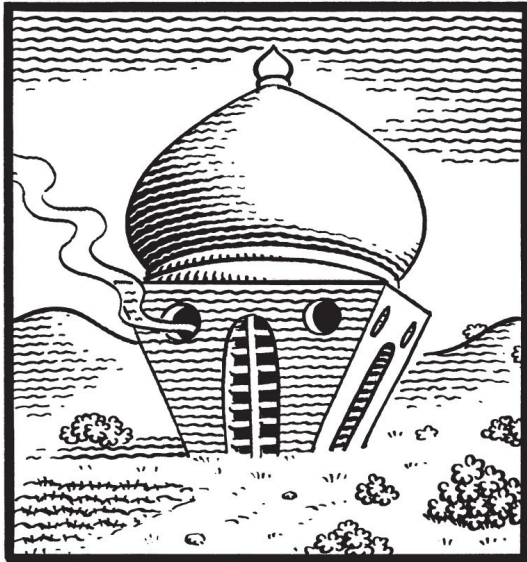
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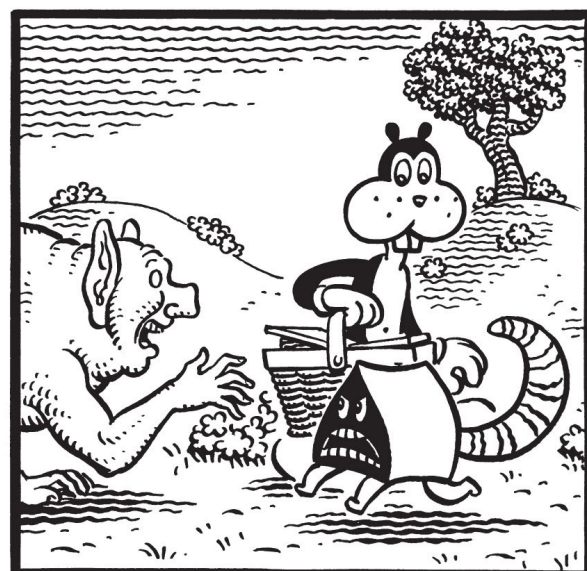
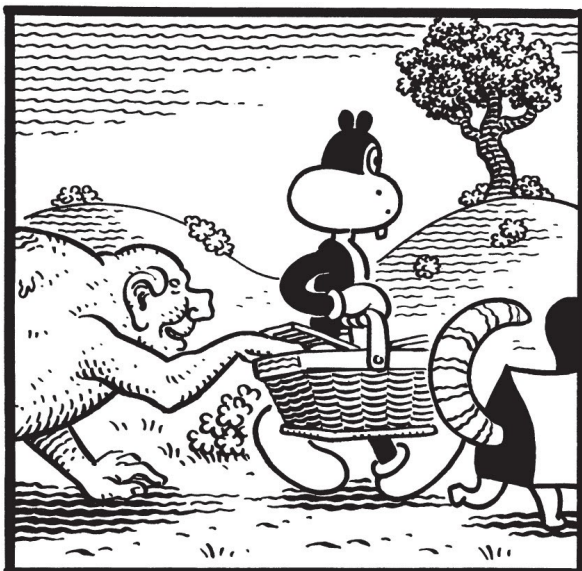
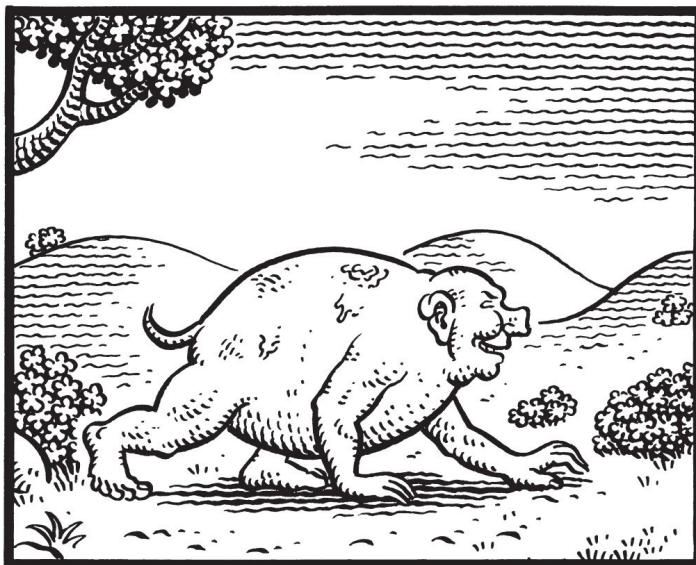
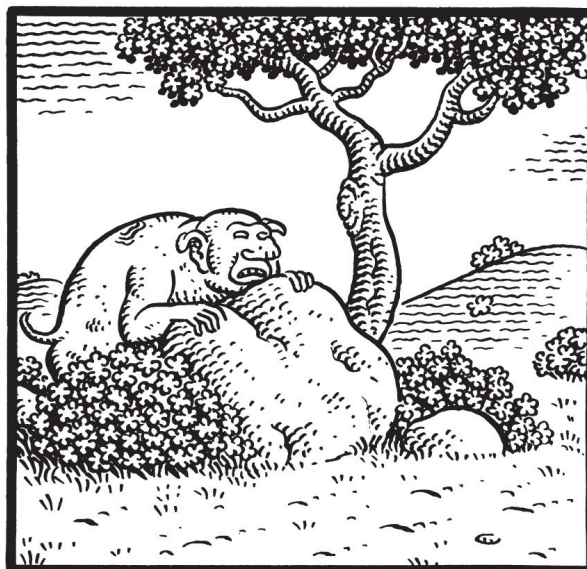
The Book of Jim  
The Frank Book  
The Portable Frank  
Seeing Things  
Trosper

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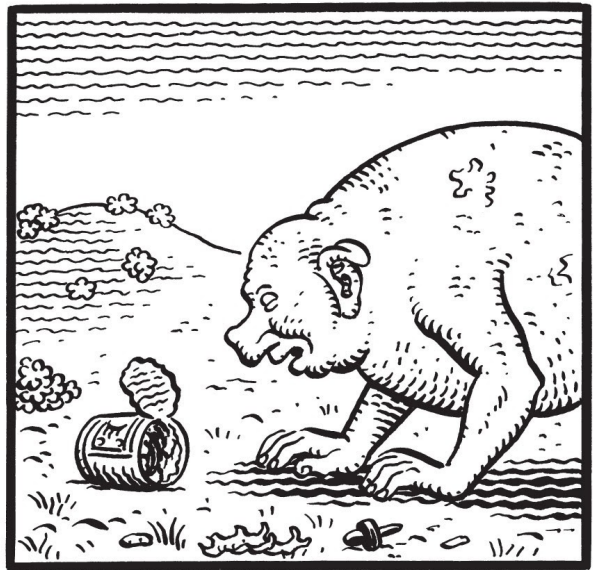
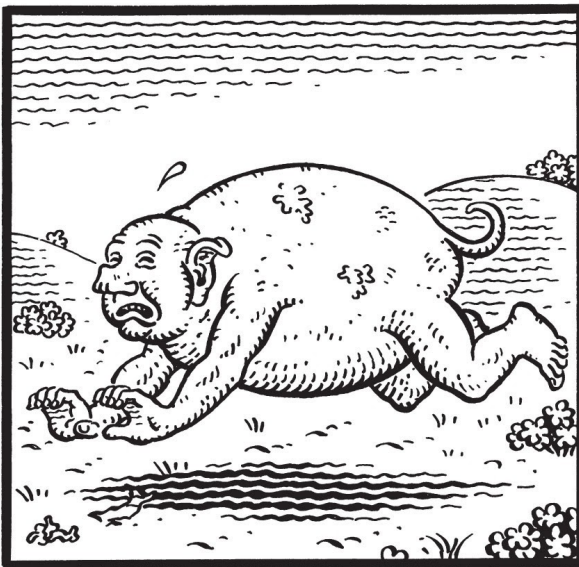
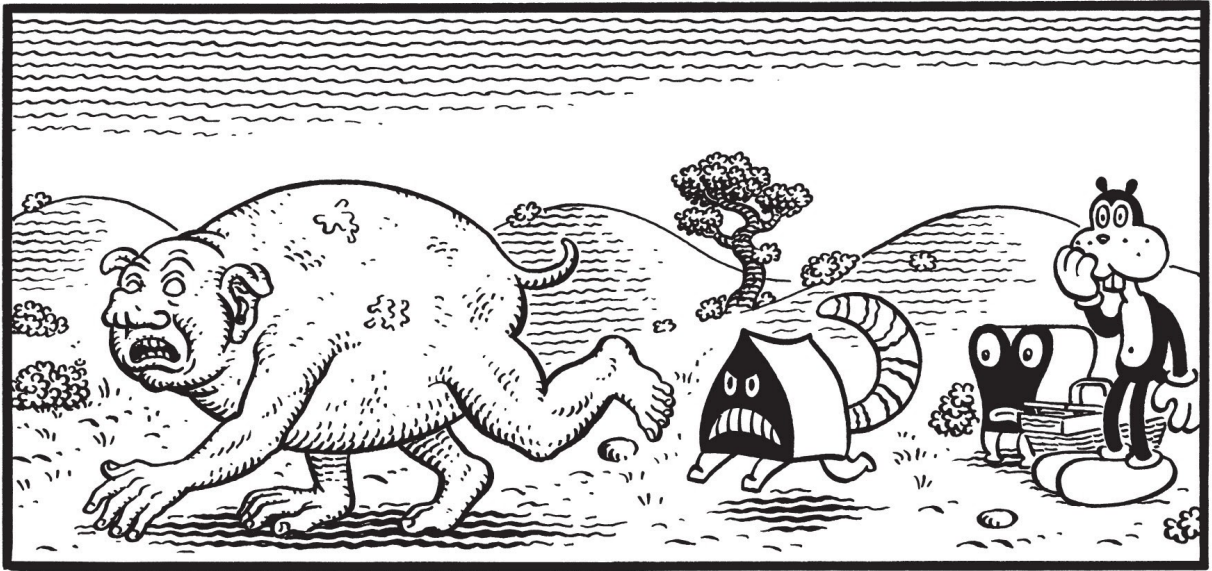




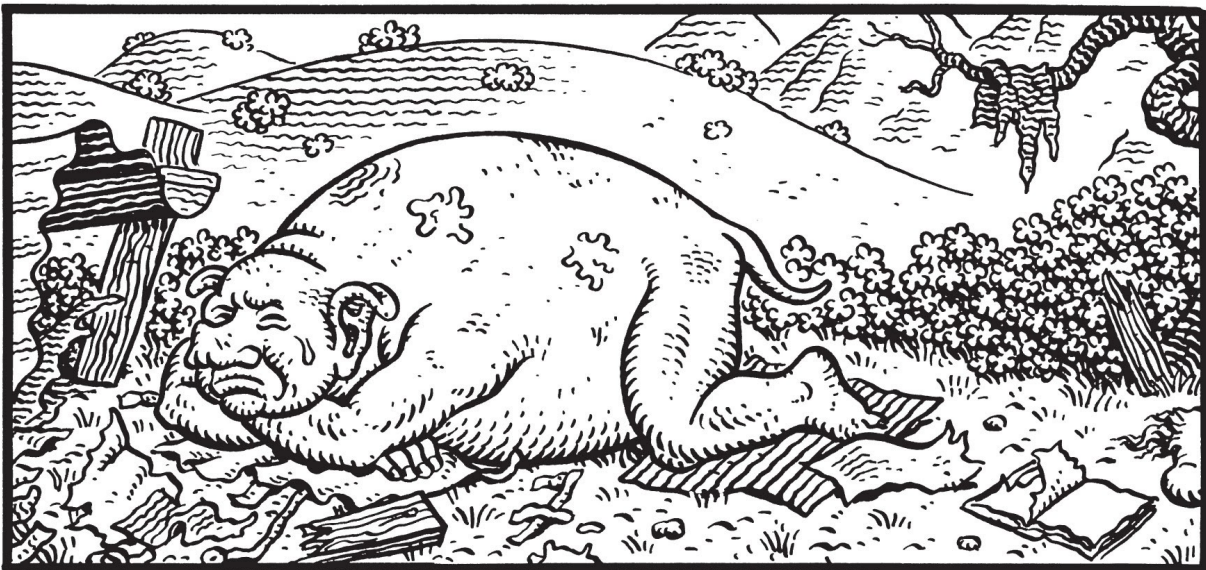
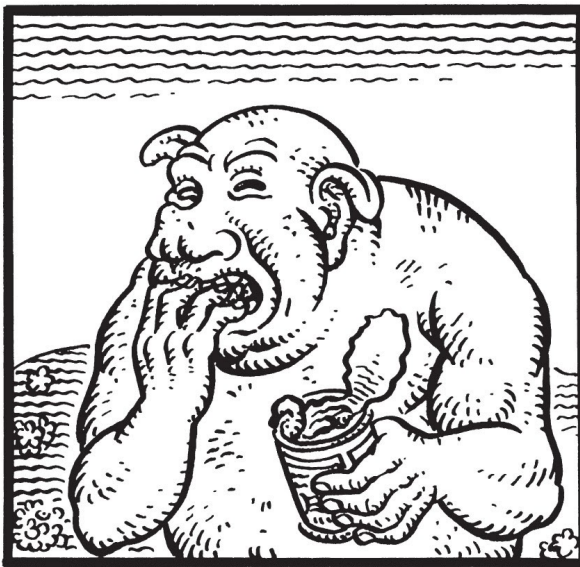








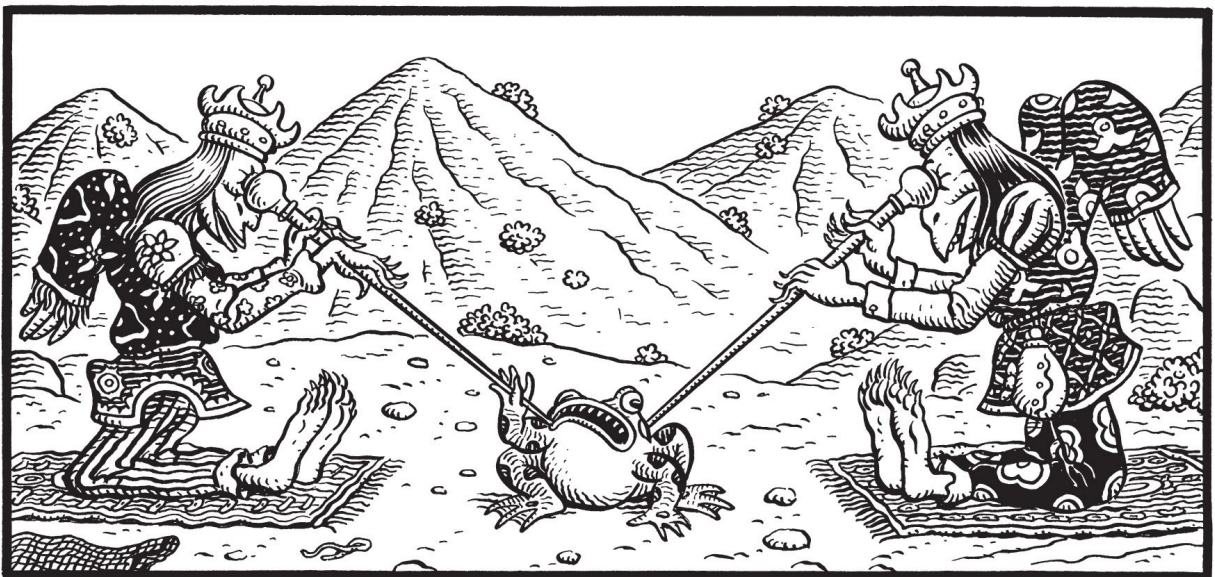
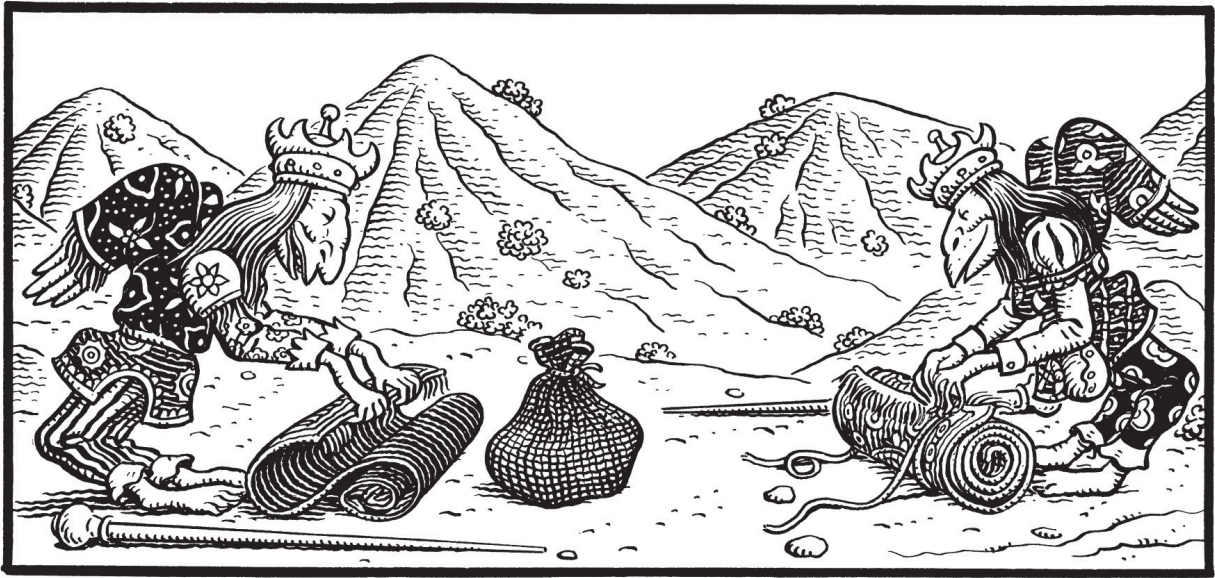












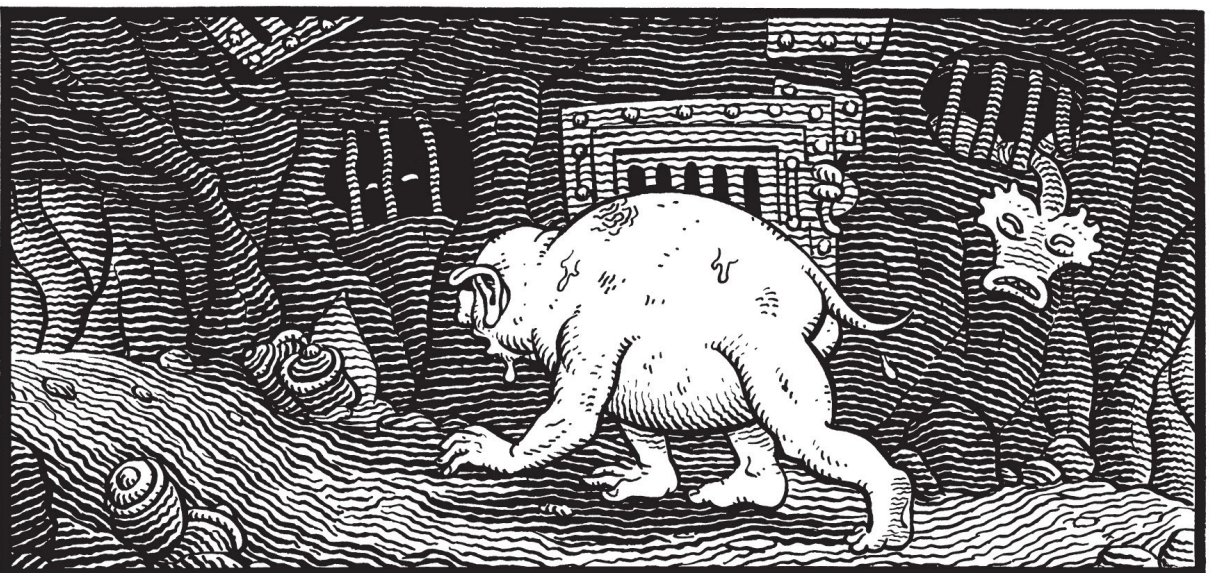
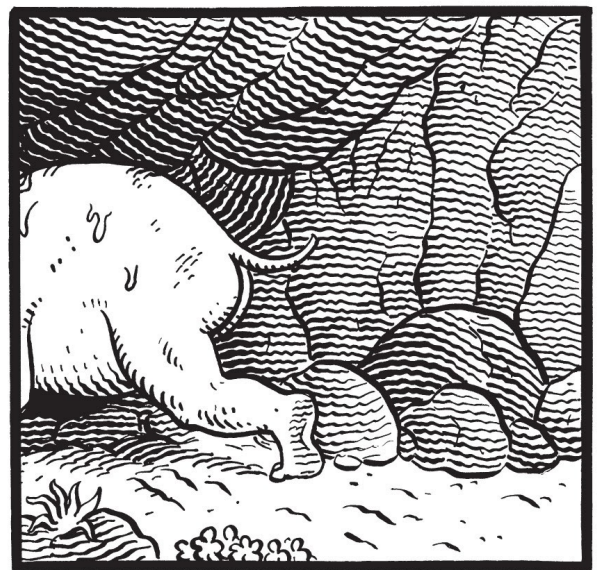




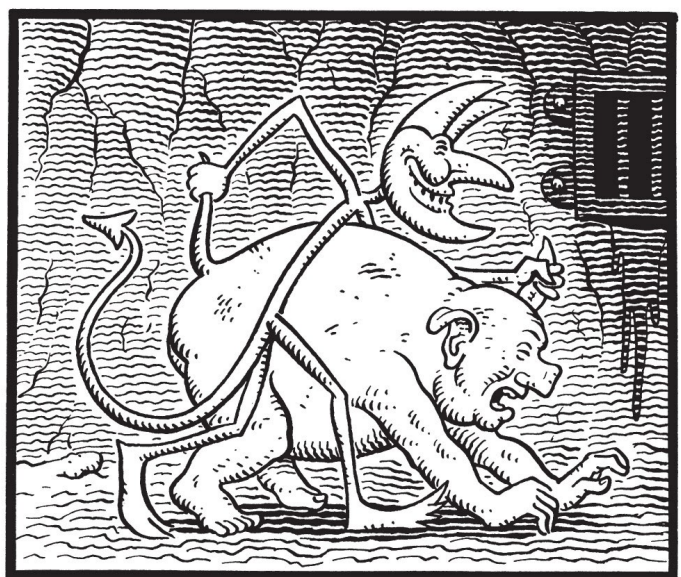
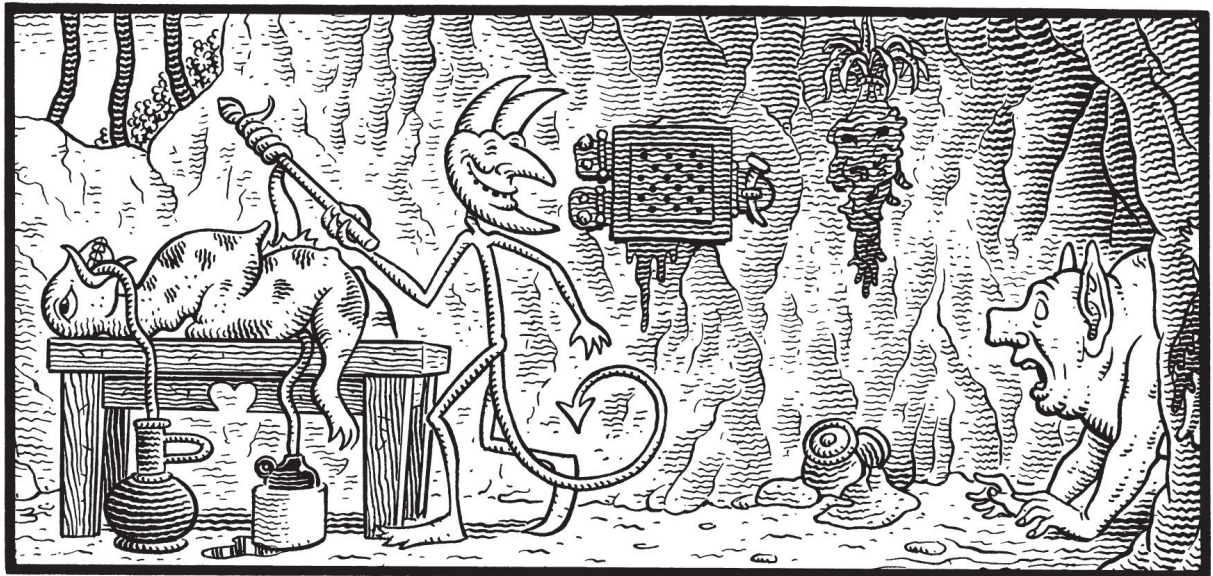
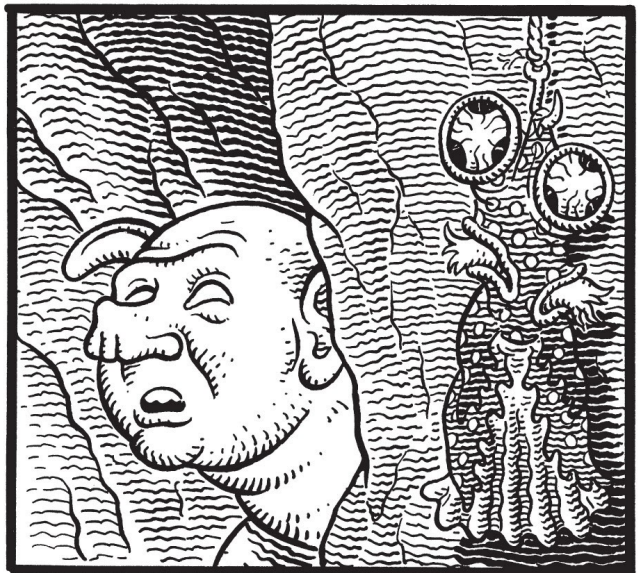




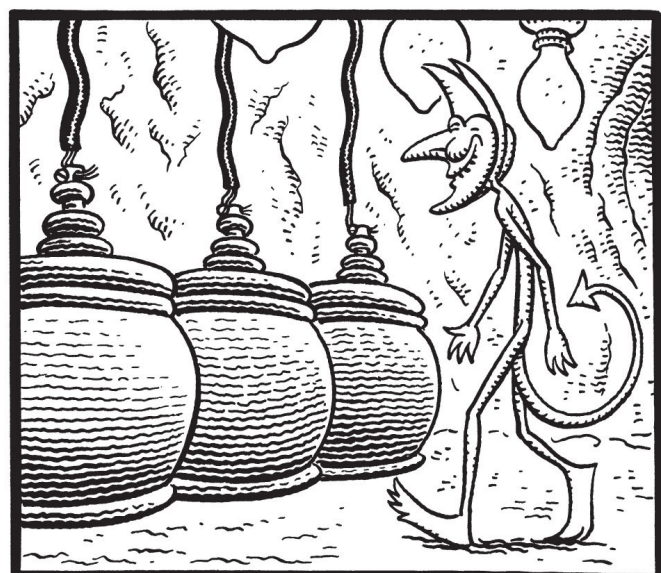
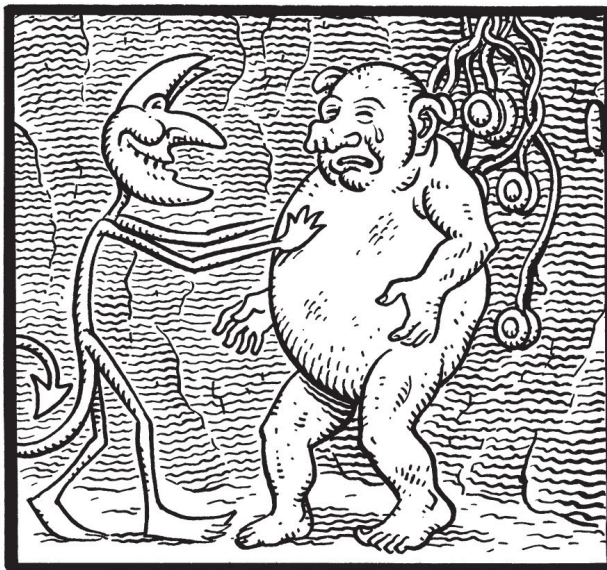
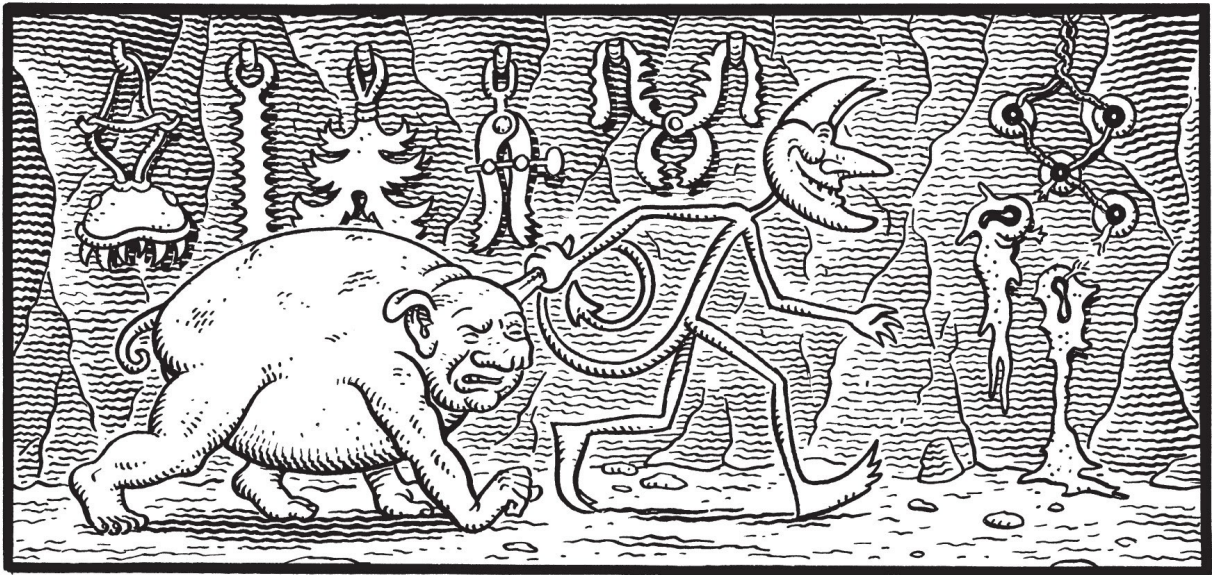




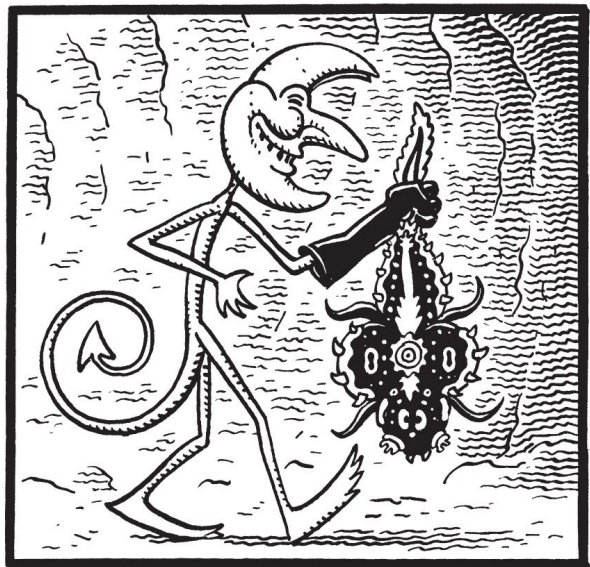
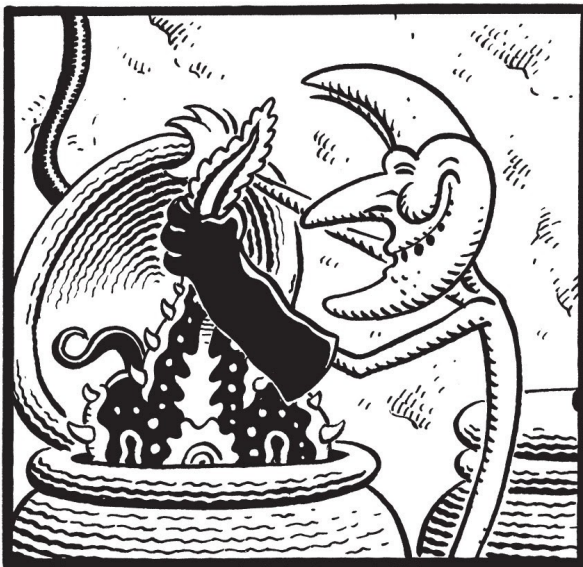
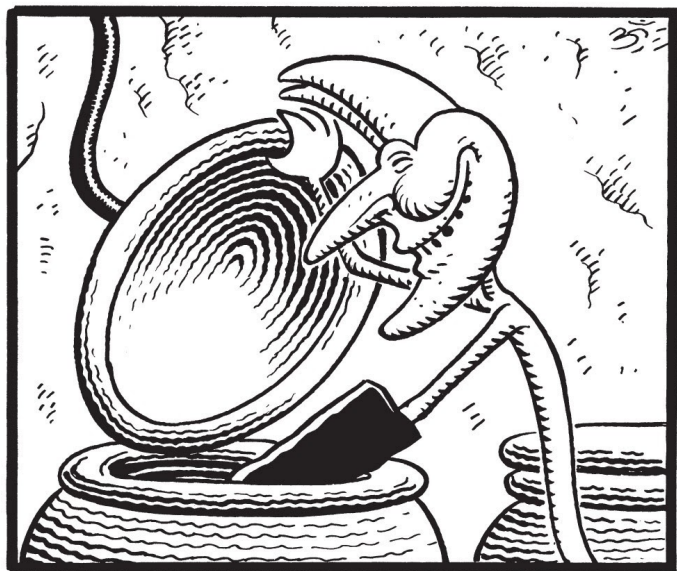




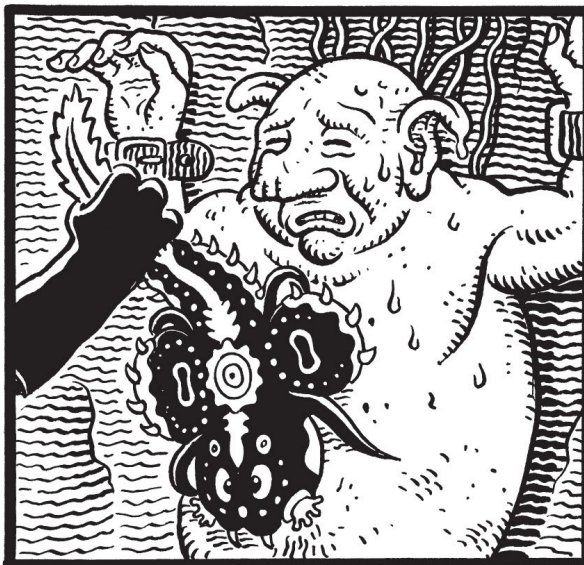
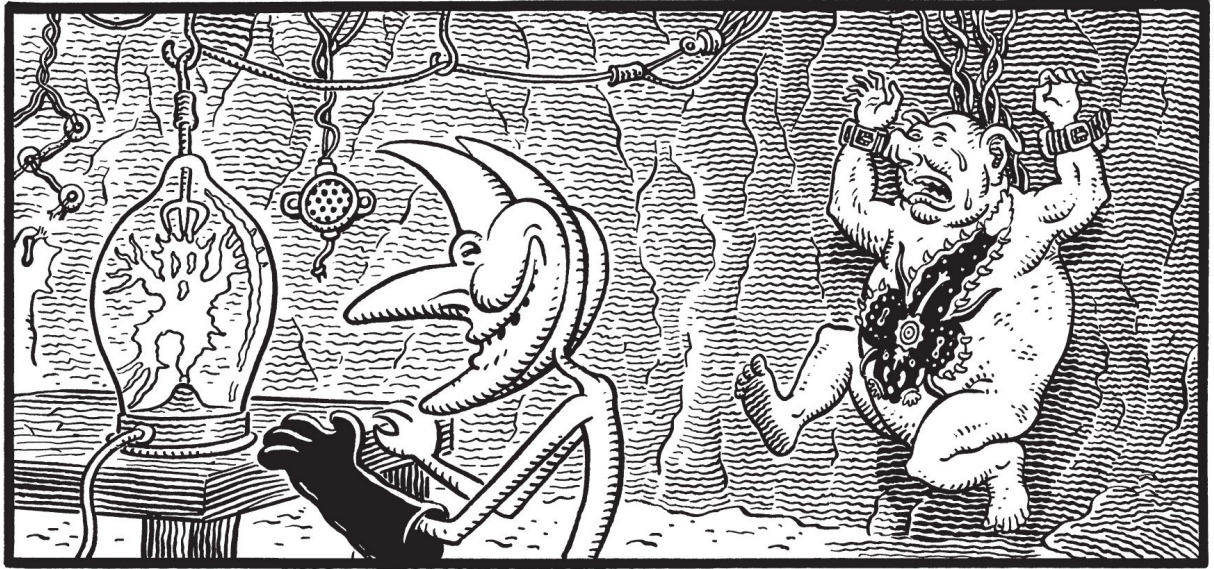




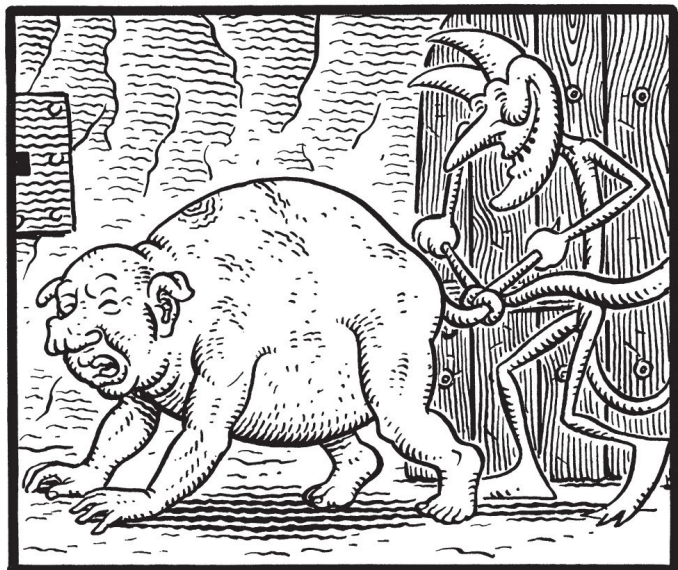
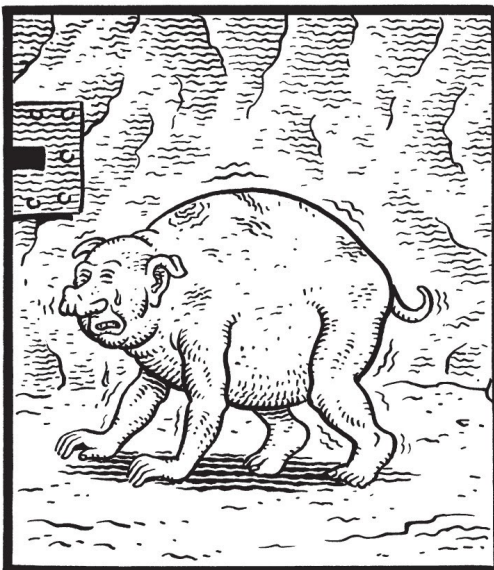
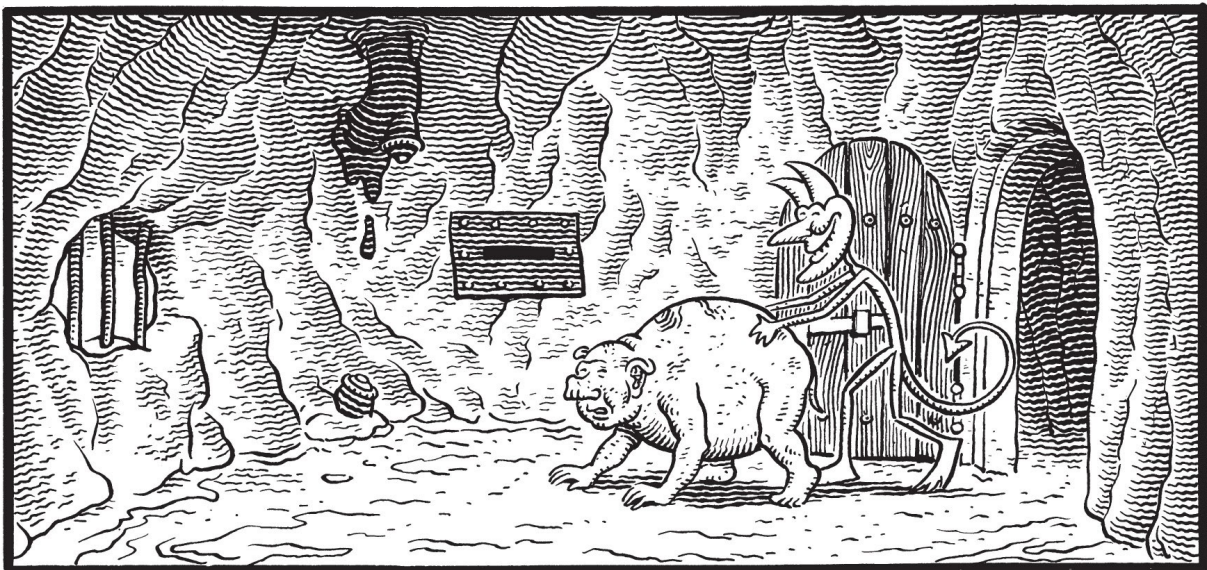
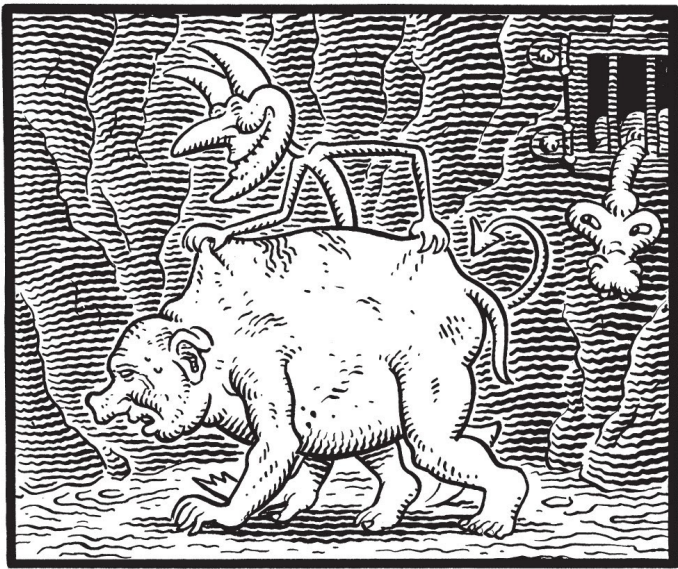




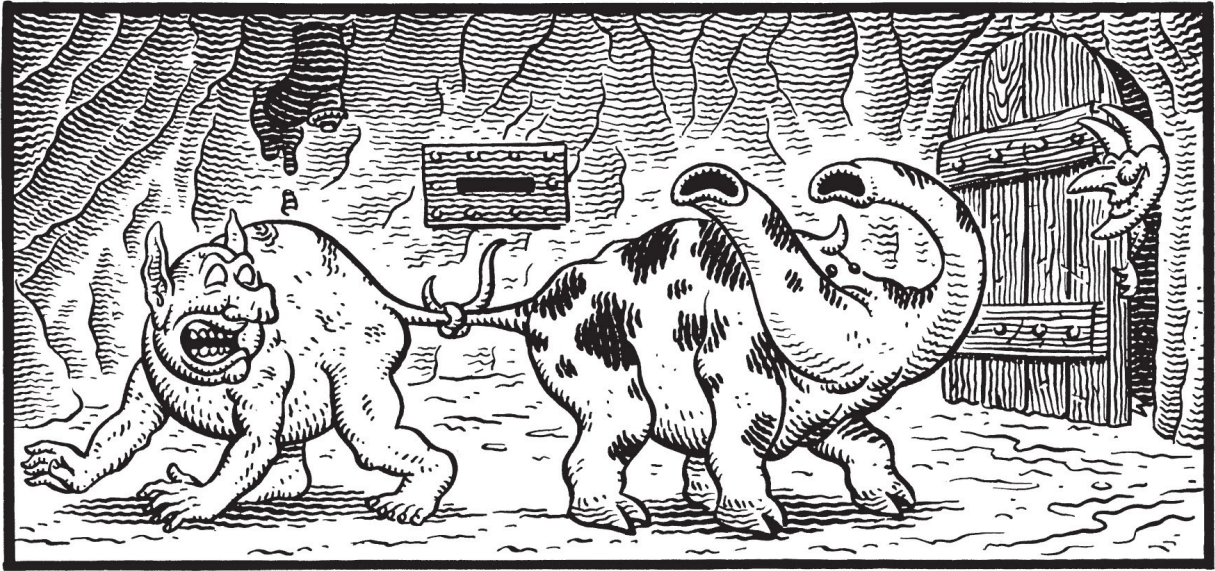




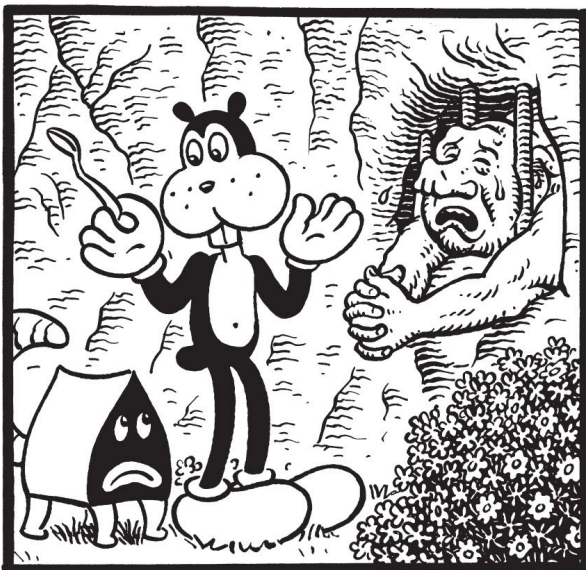
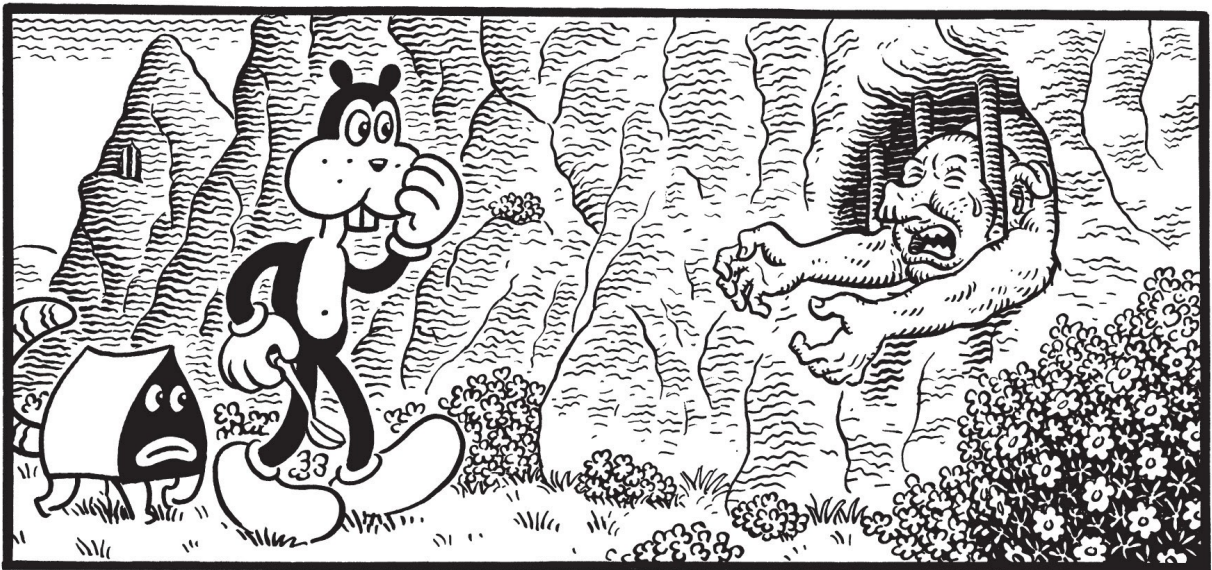
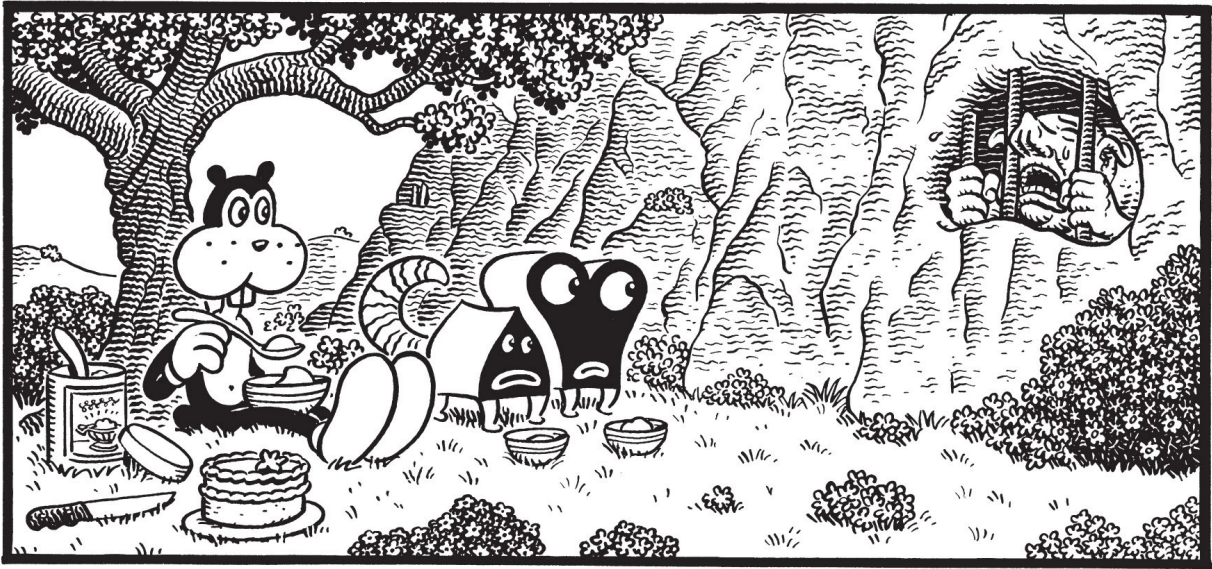












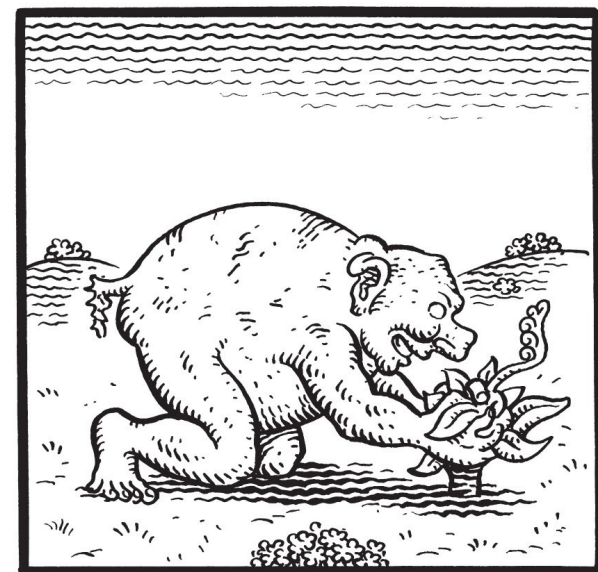
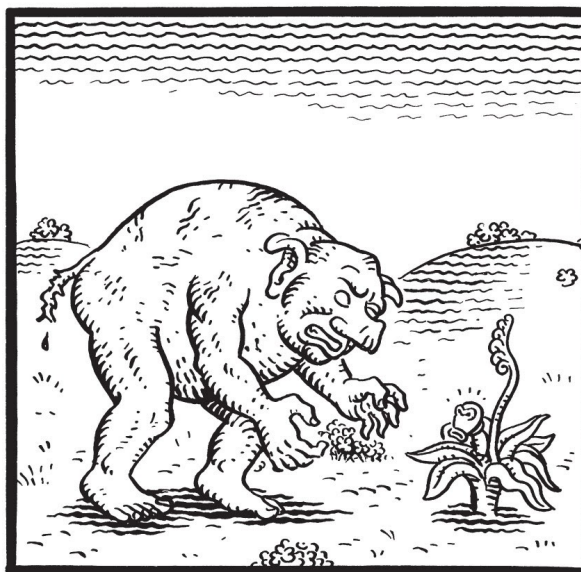
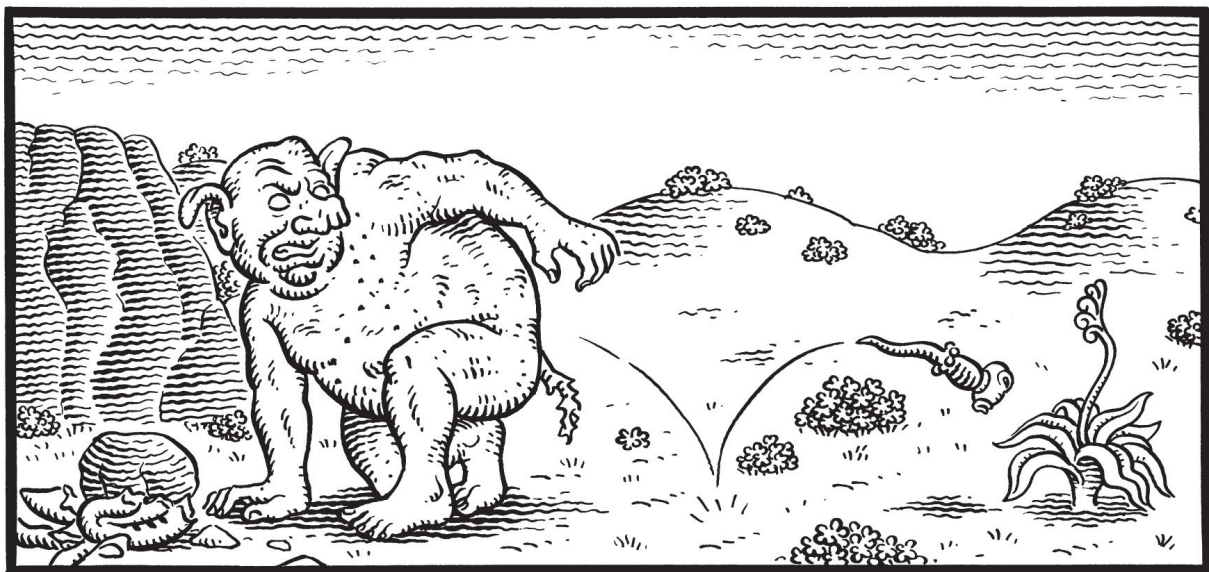
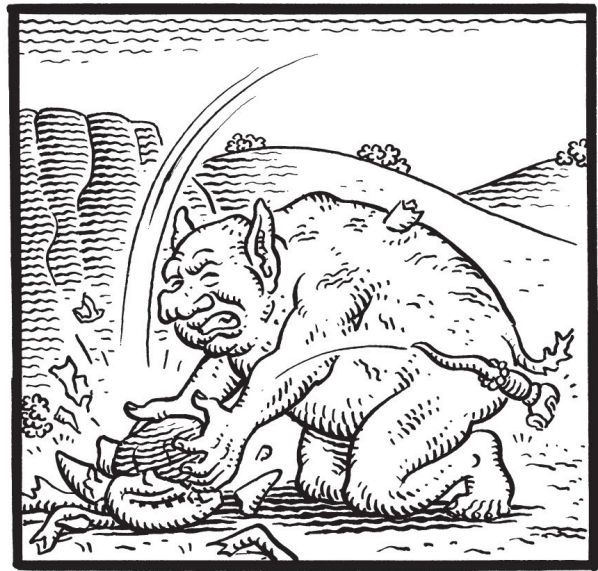




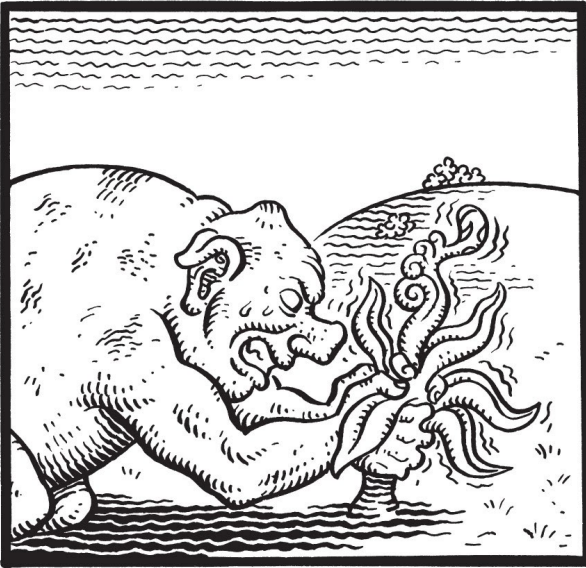




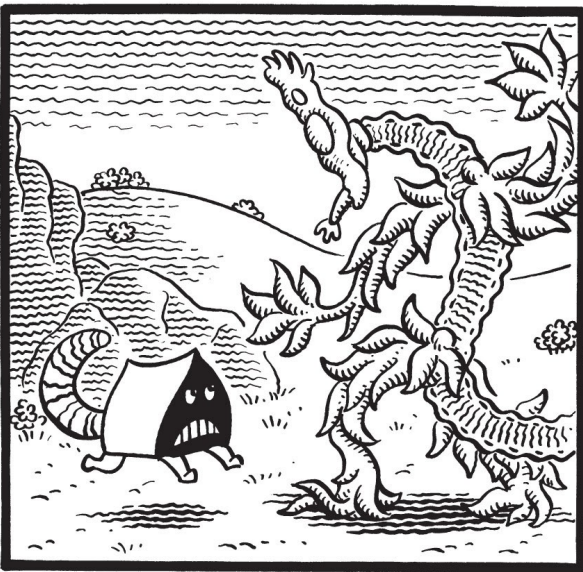
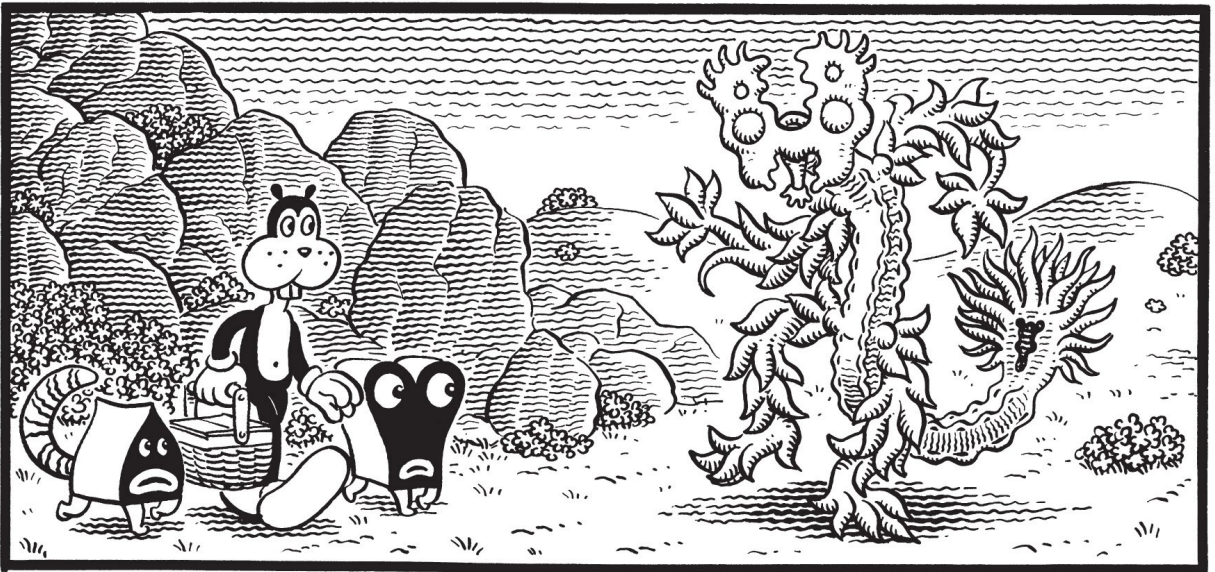




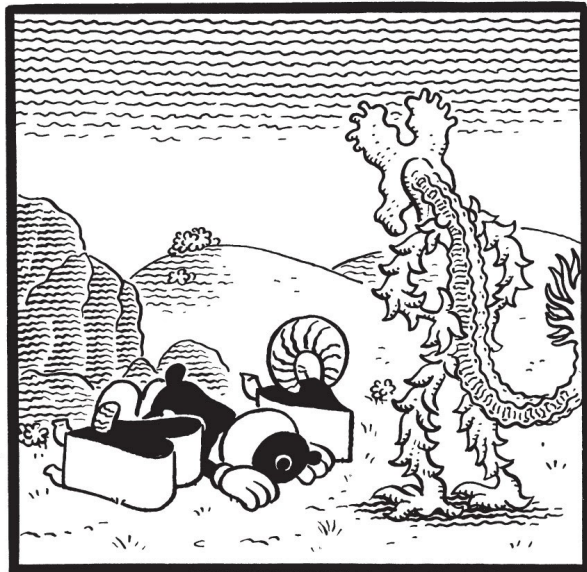
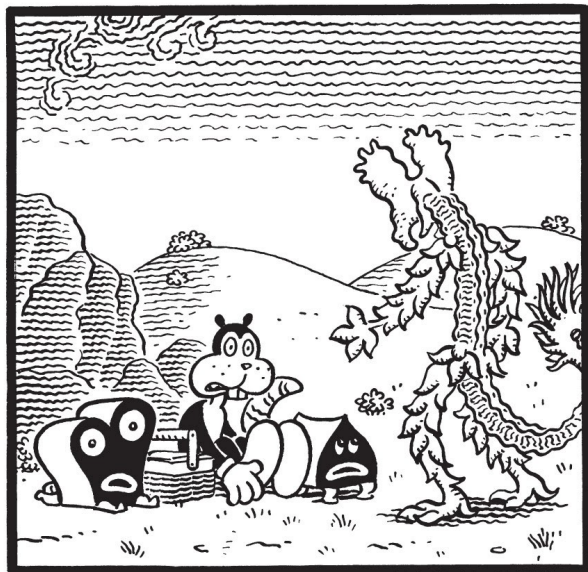




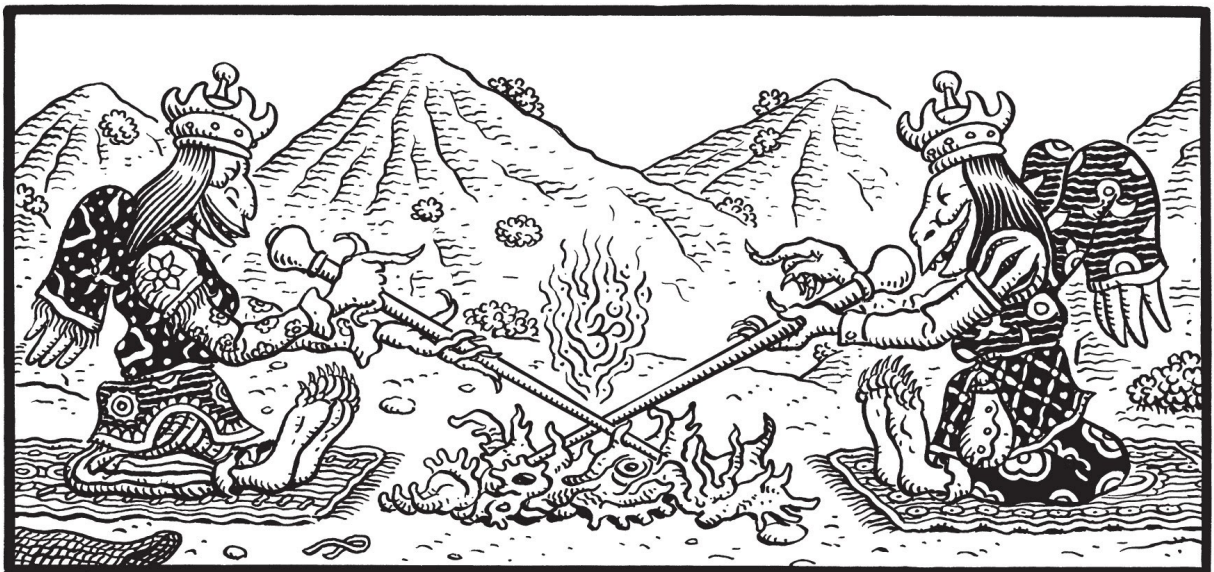
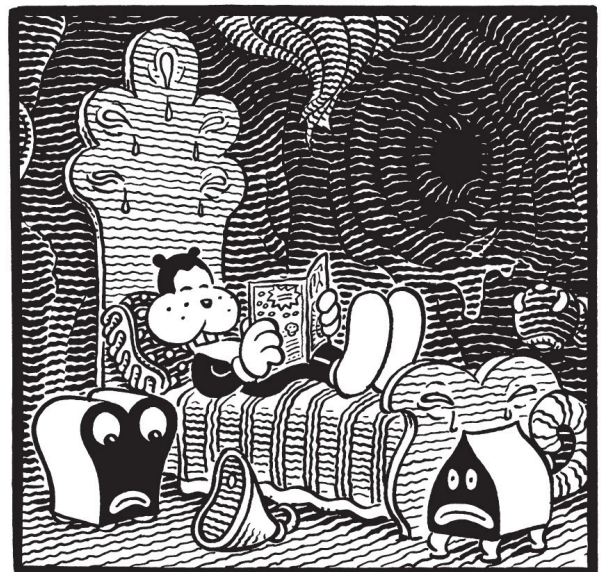
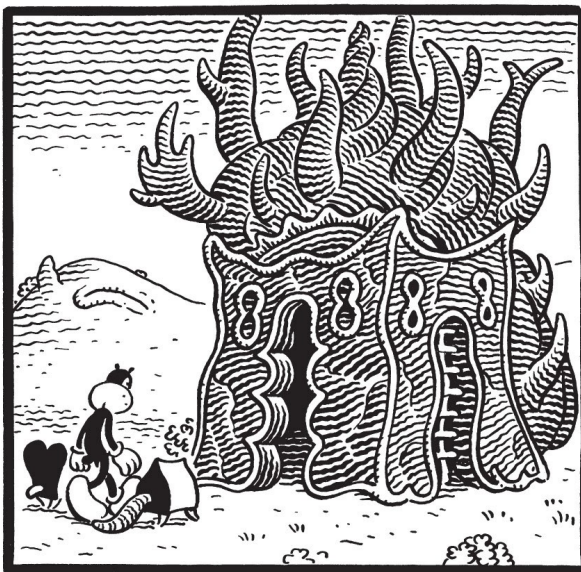
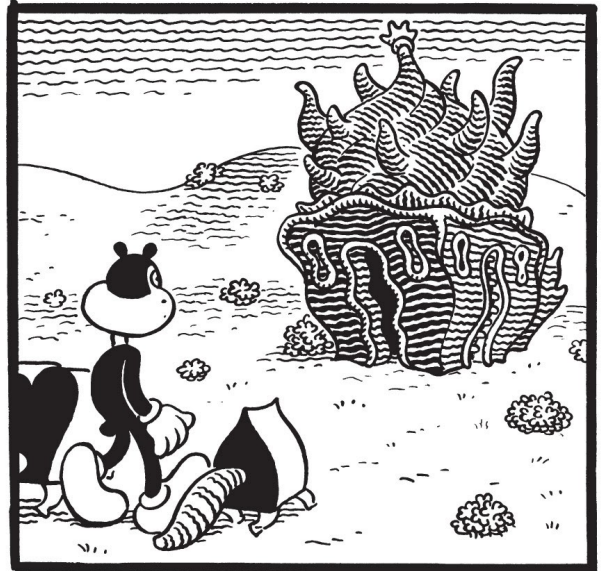
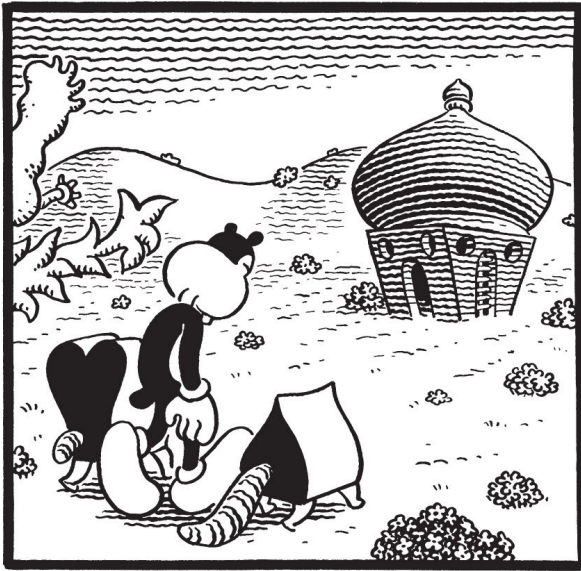




















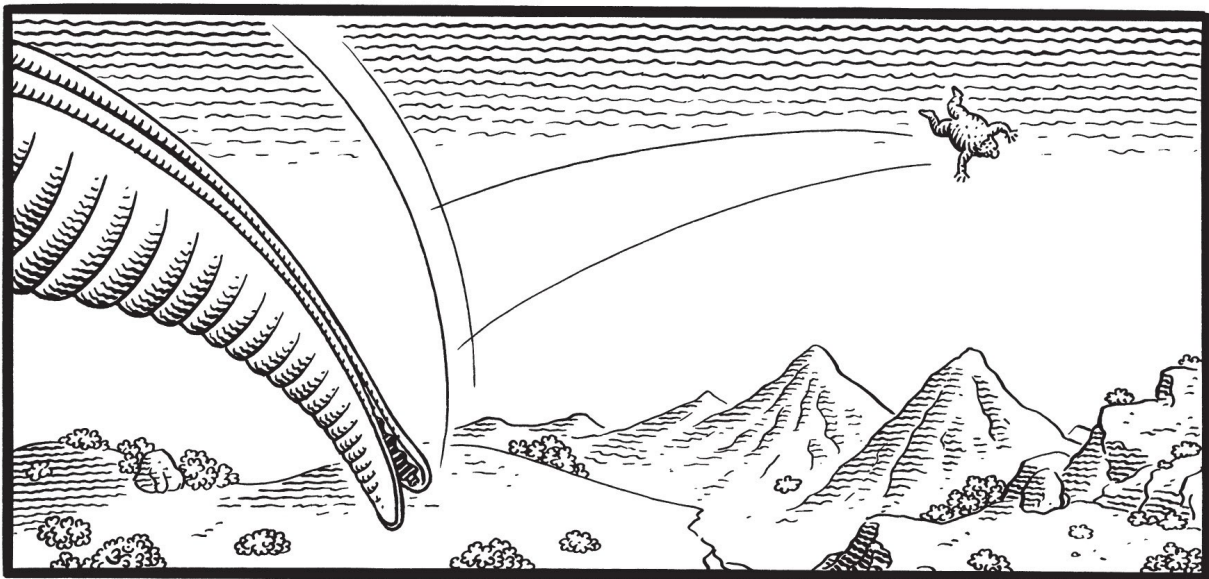
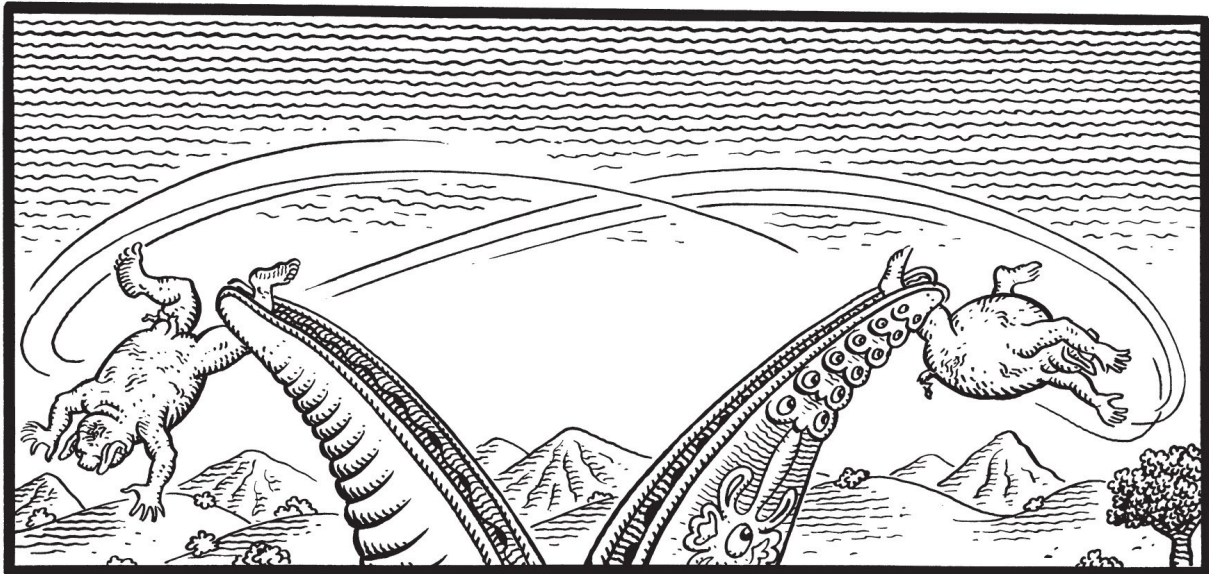
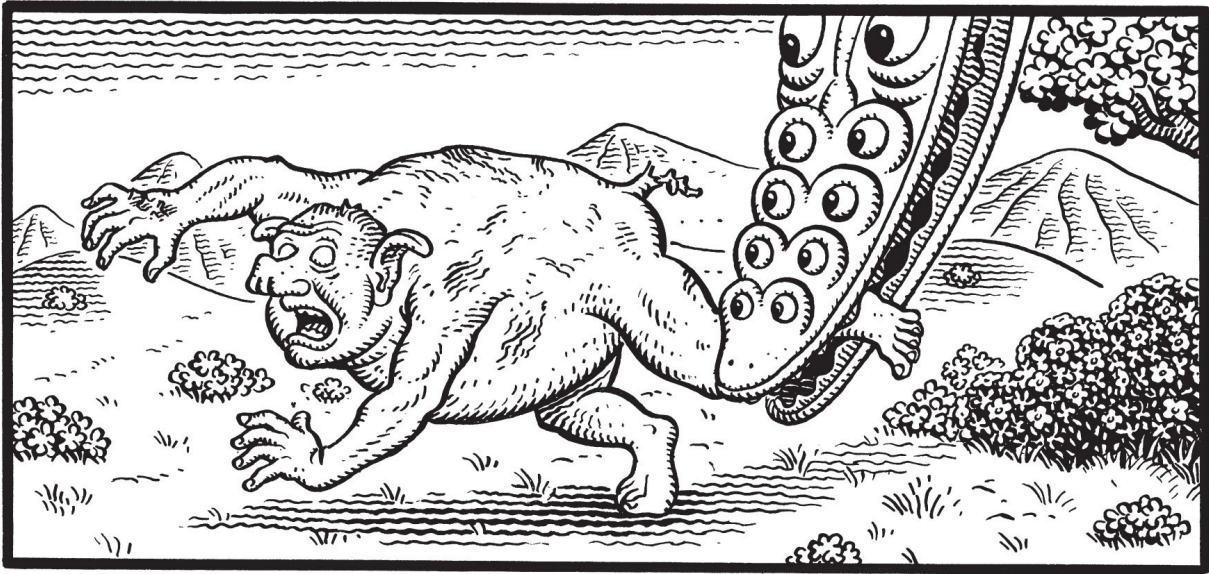




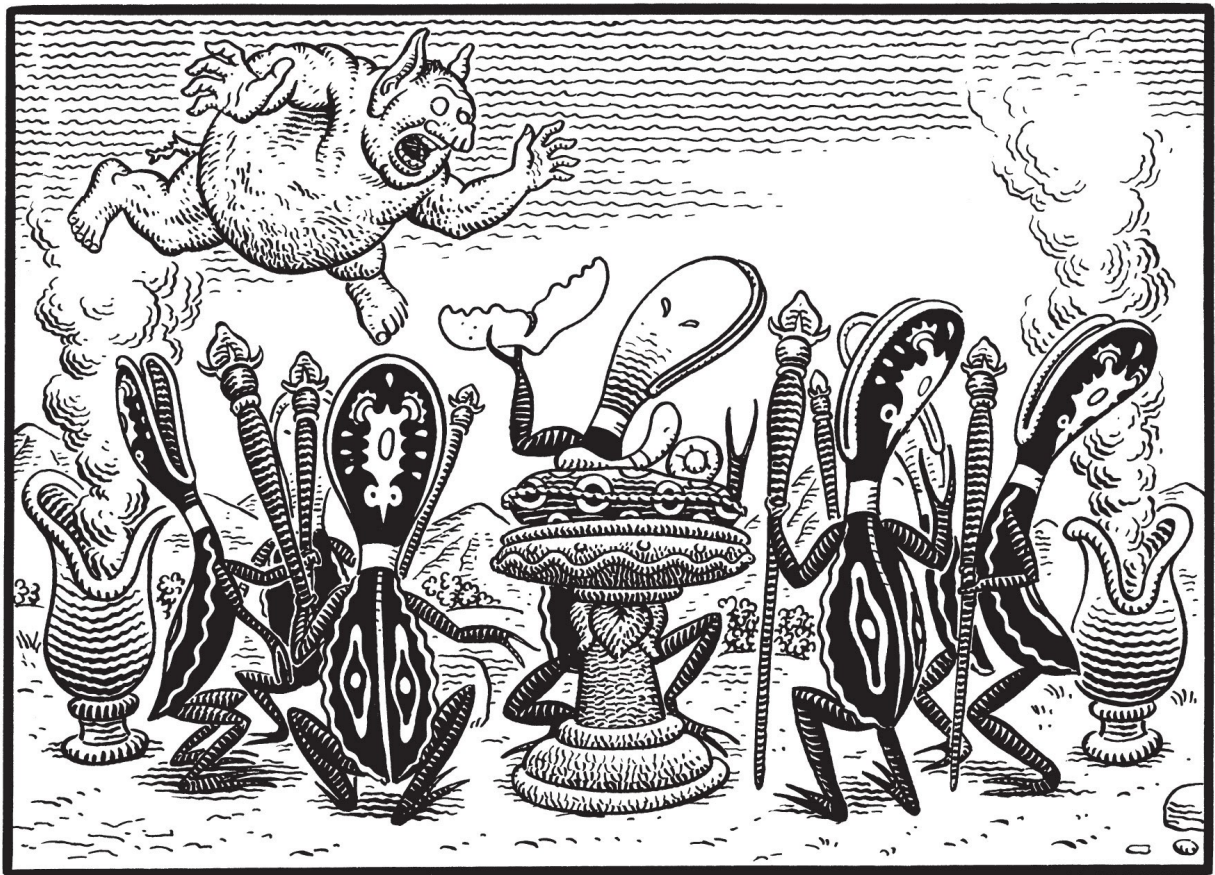




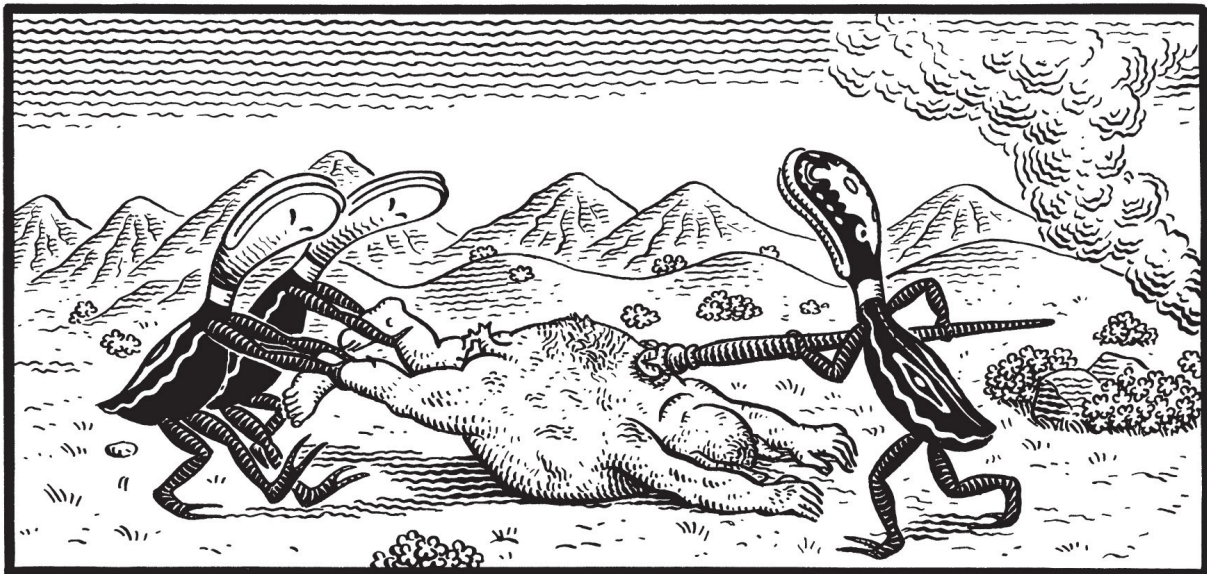
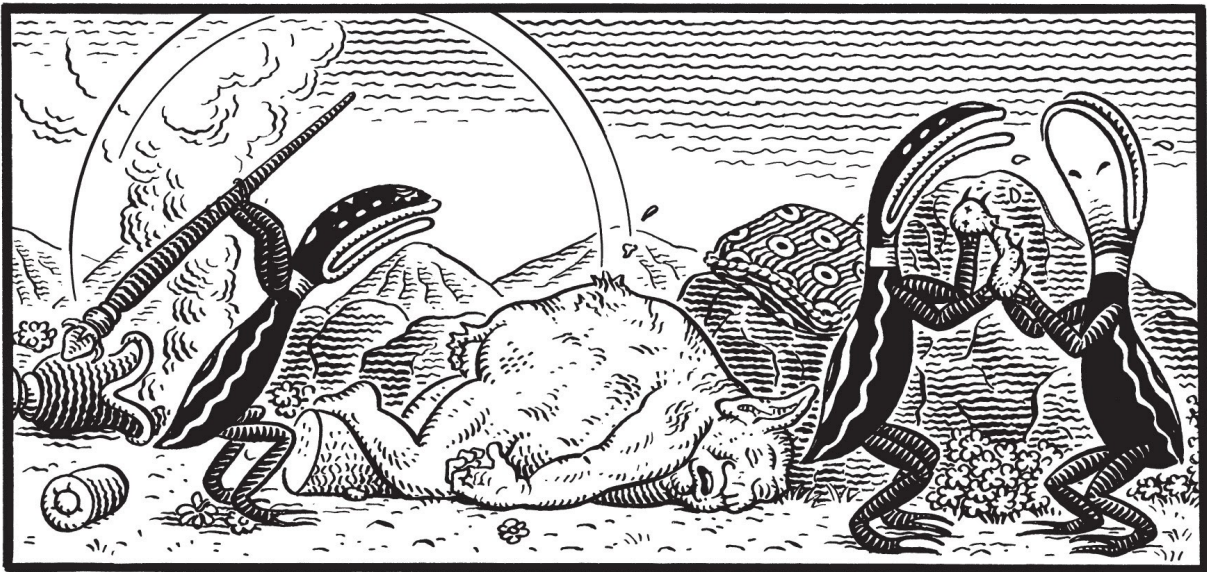
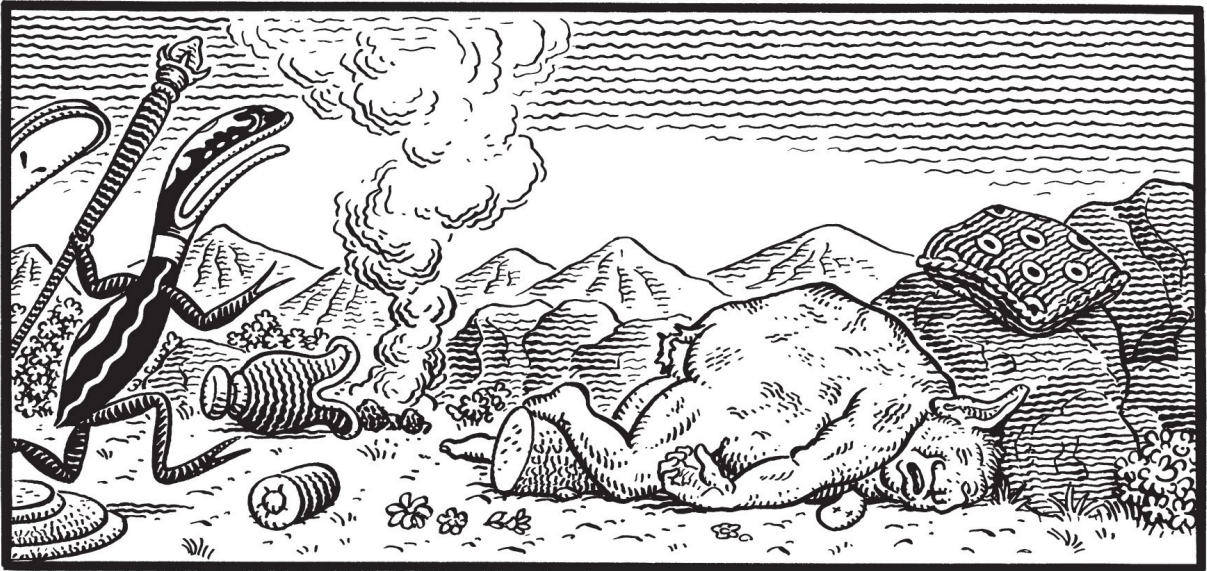




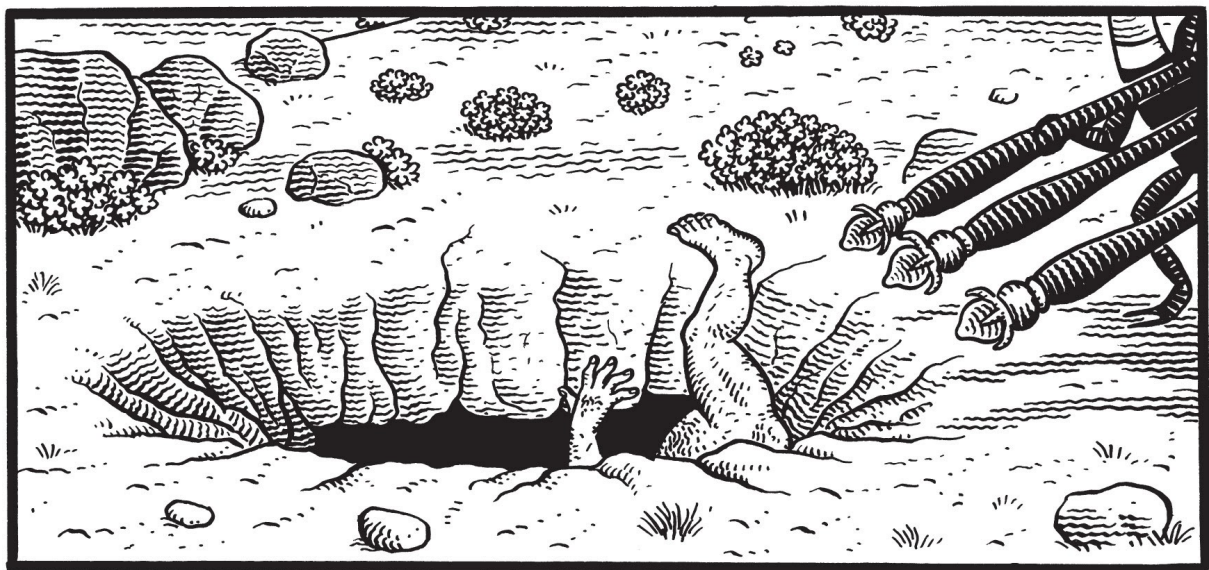
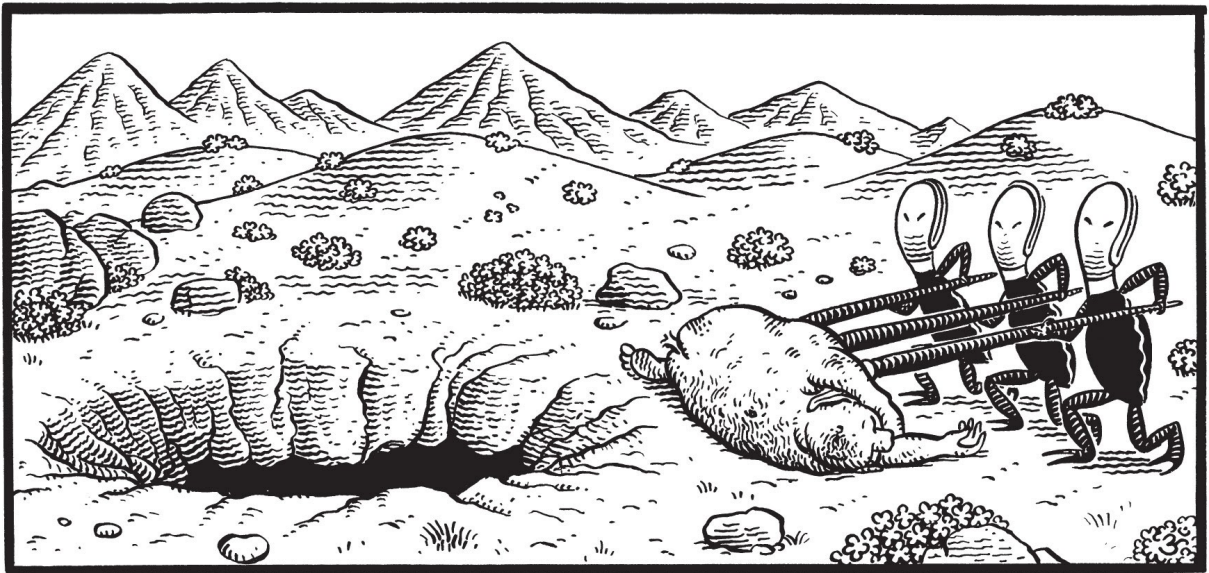












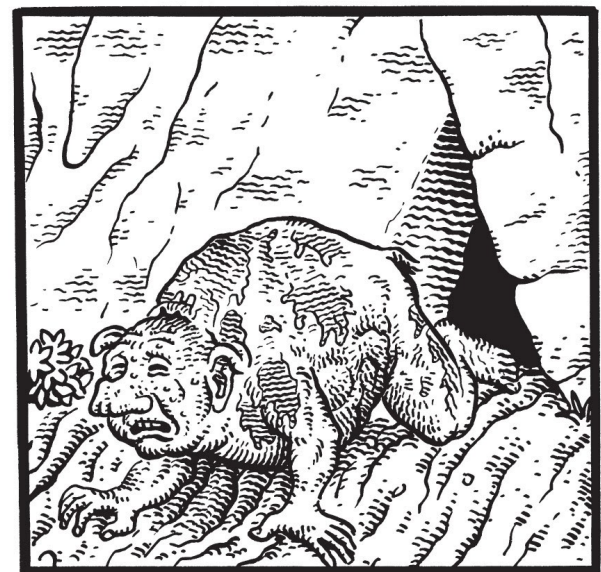


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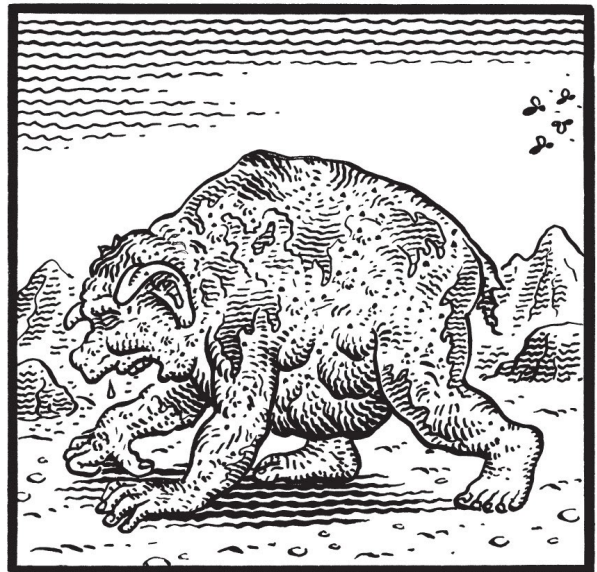
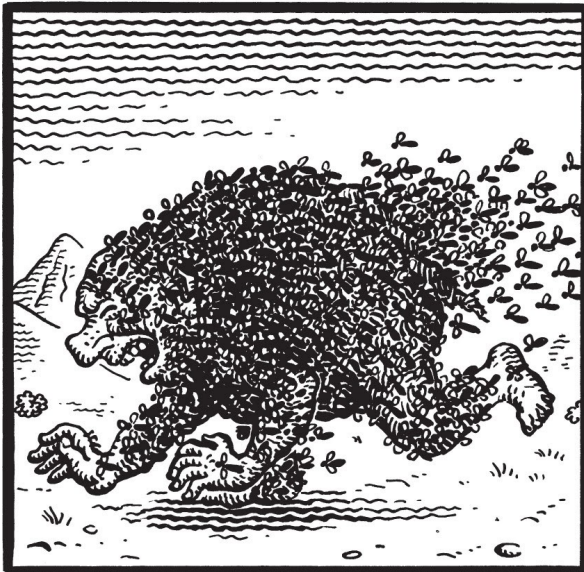
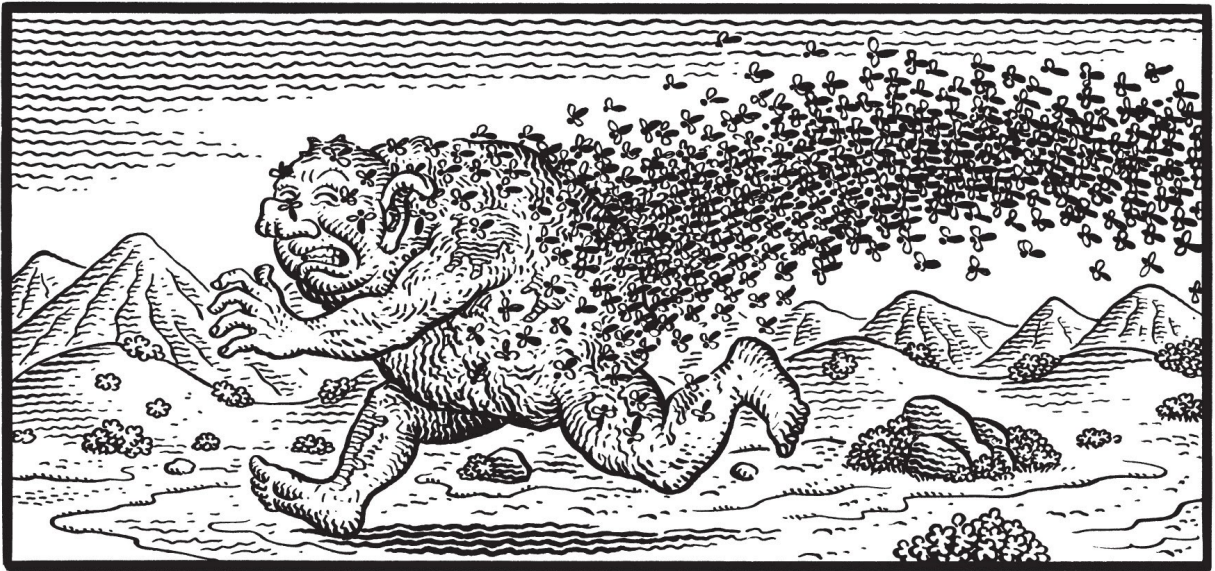




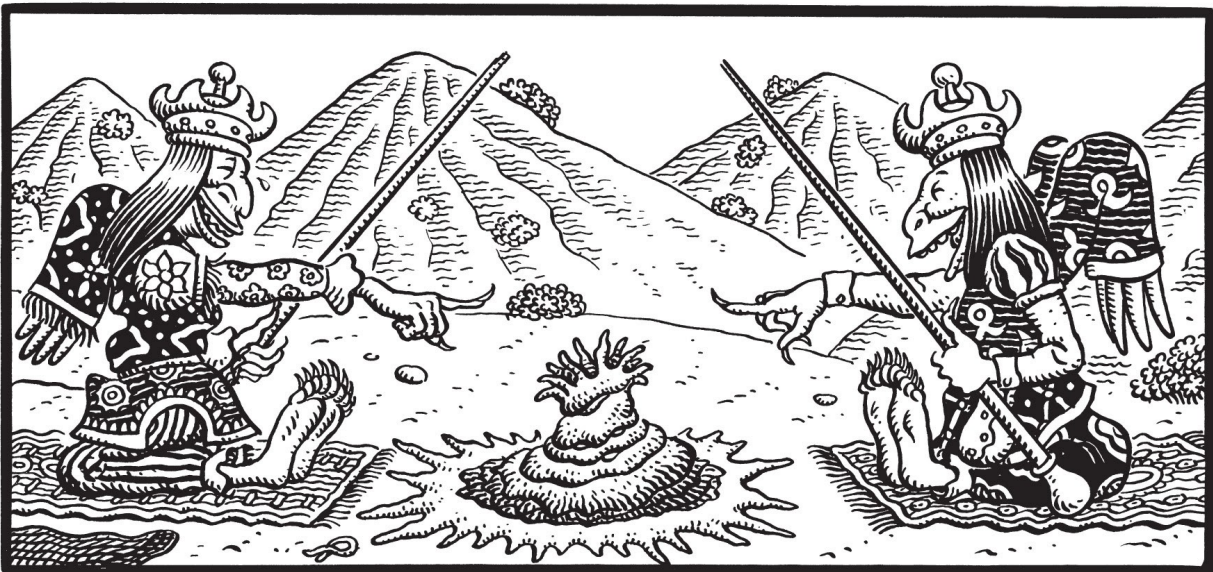
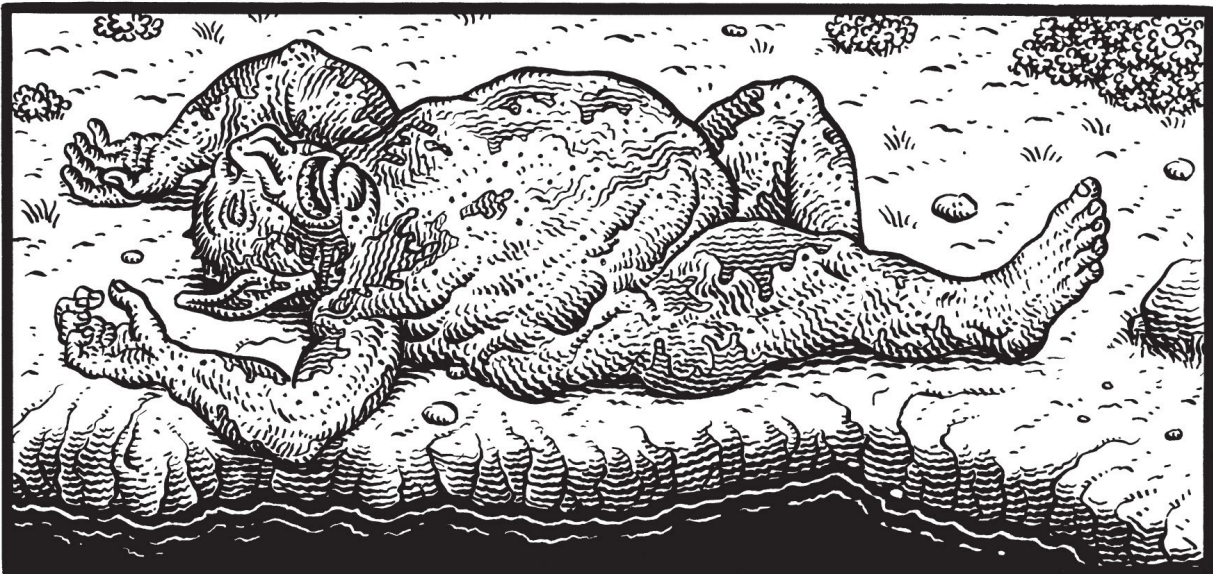




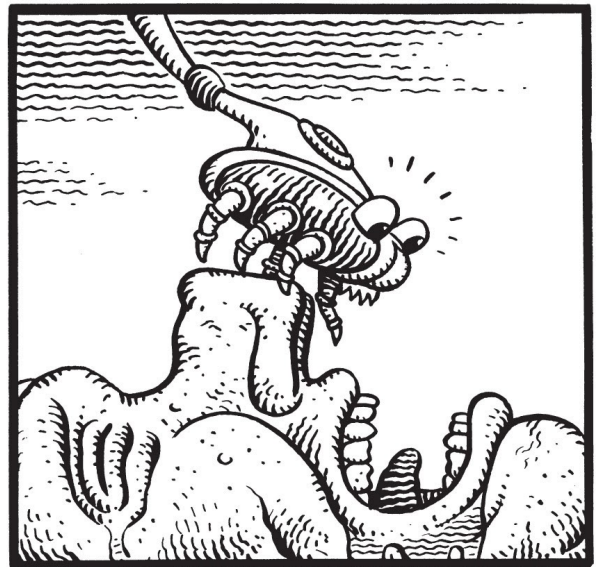
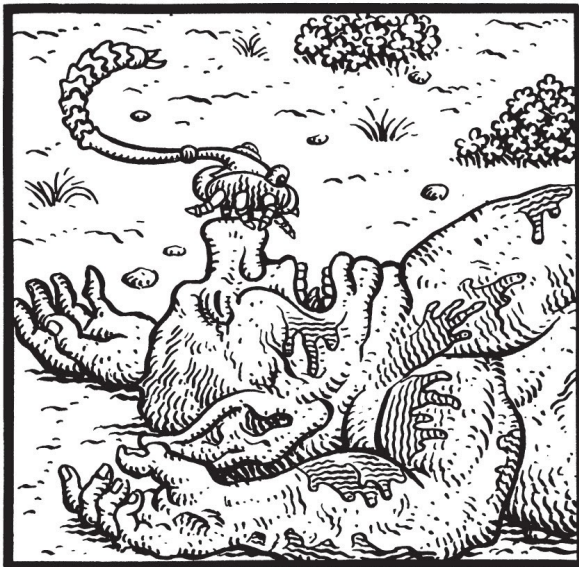
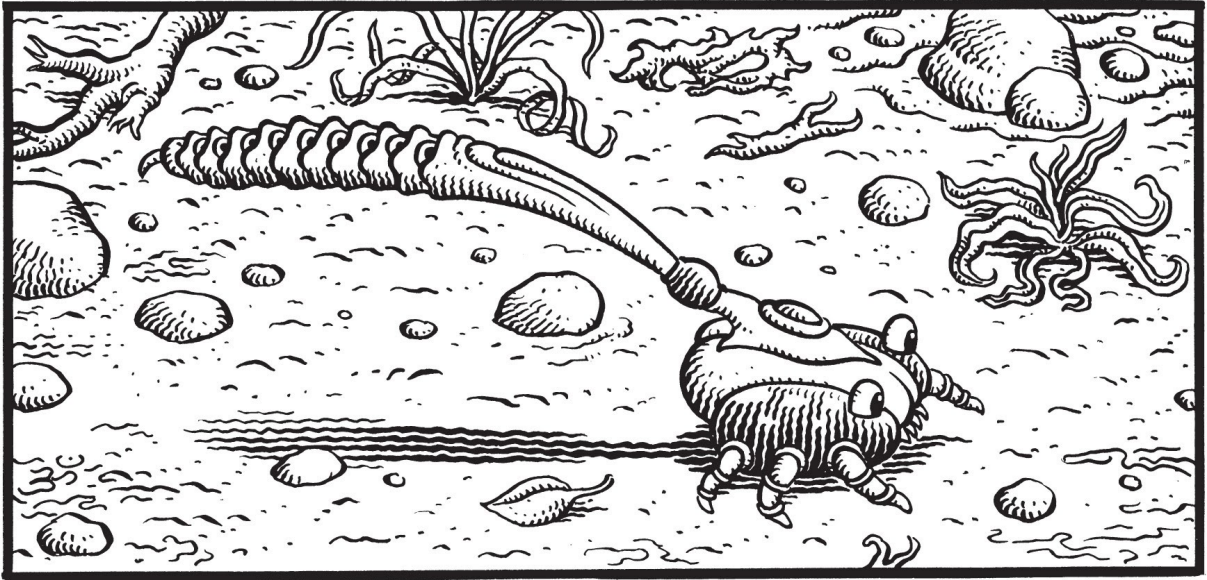




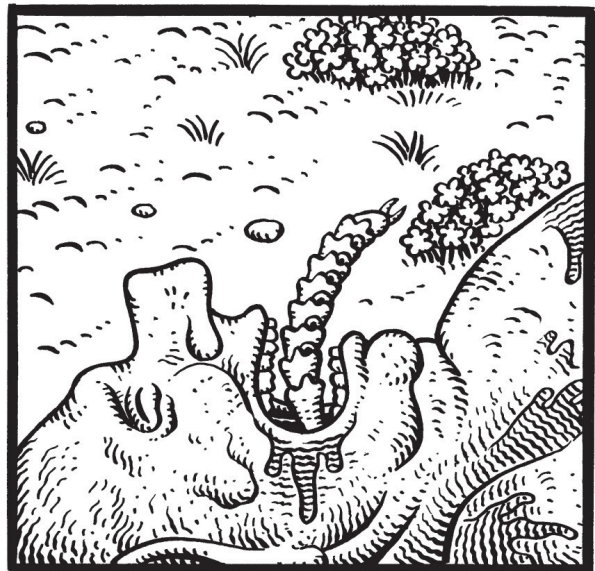
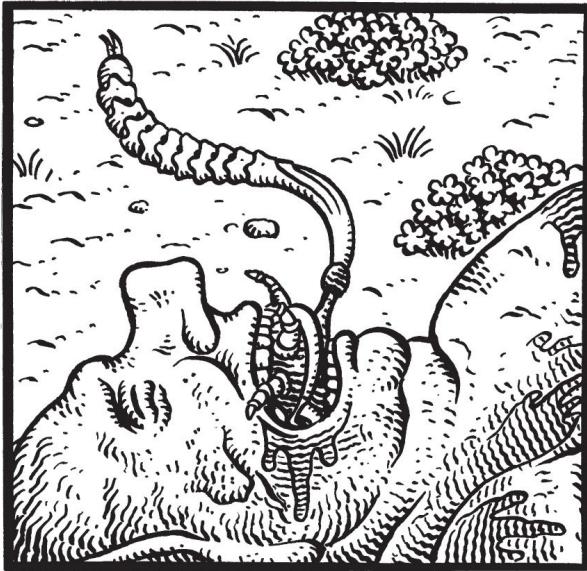




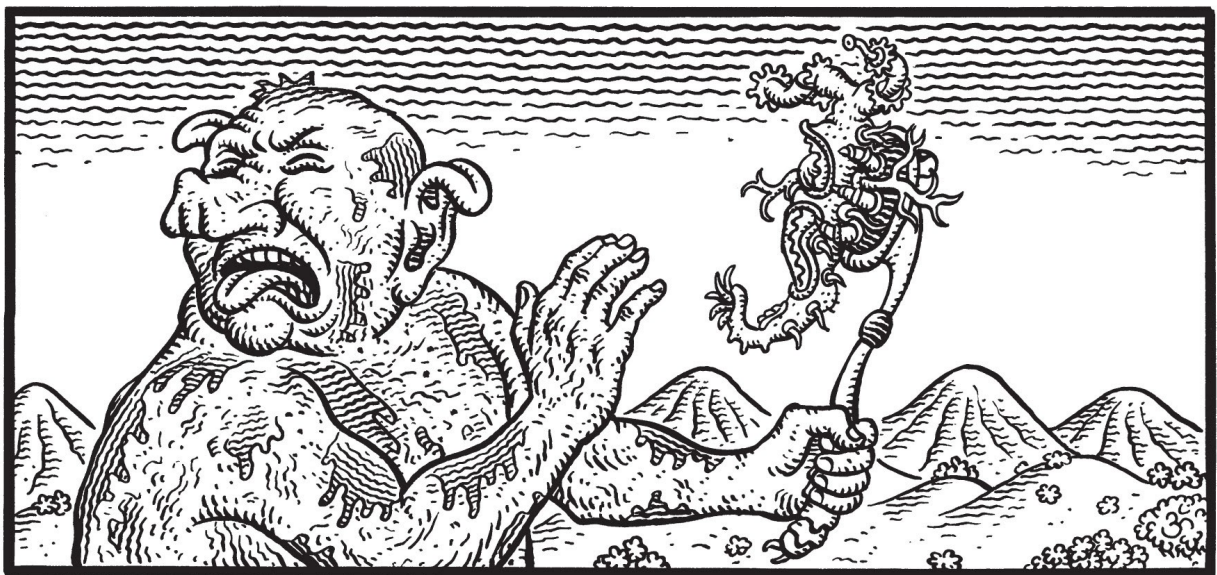
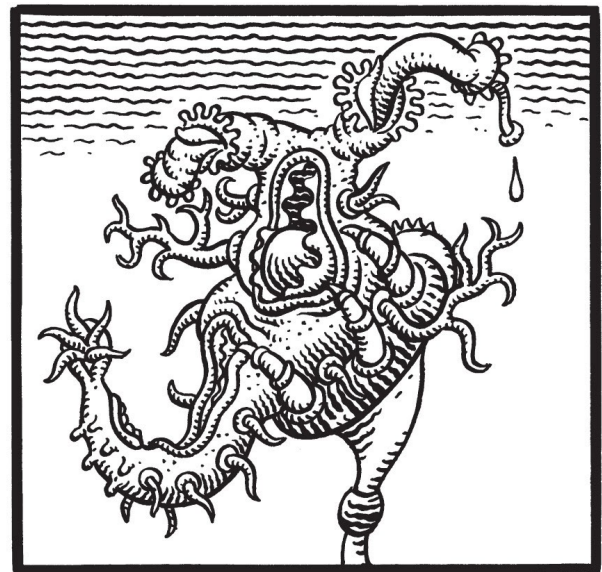
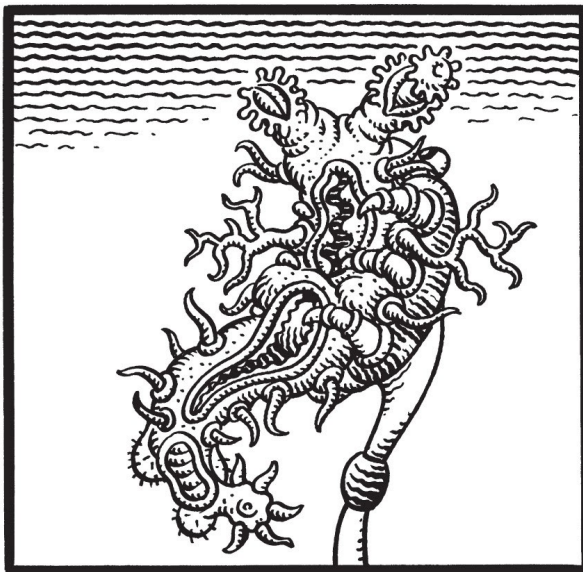




















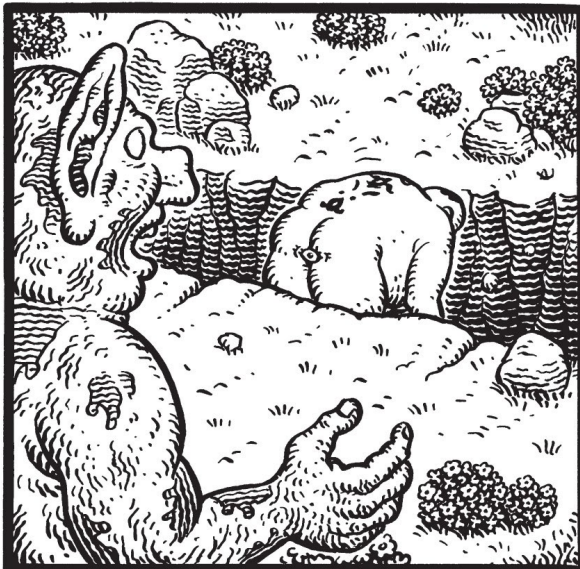
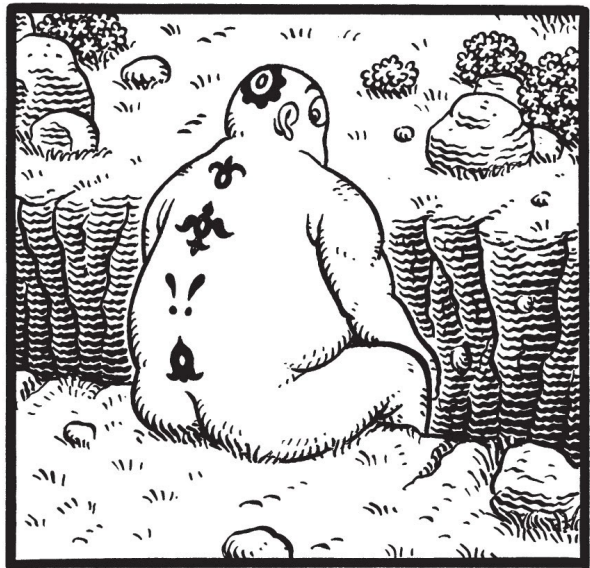
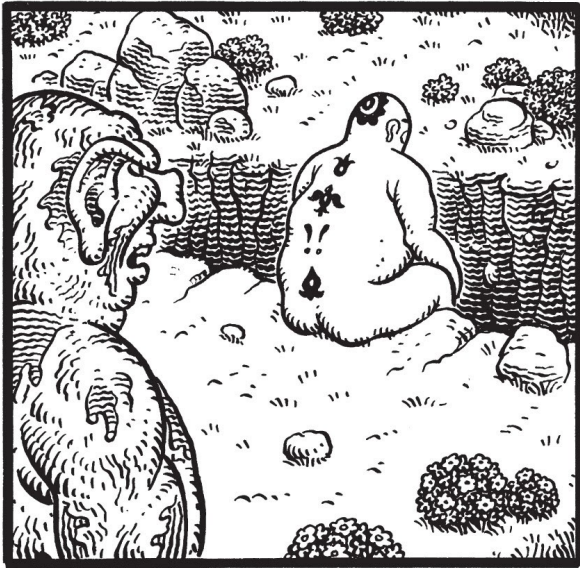








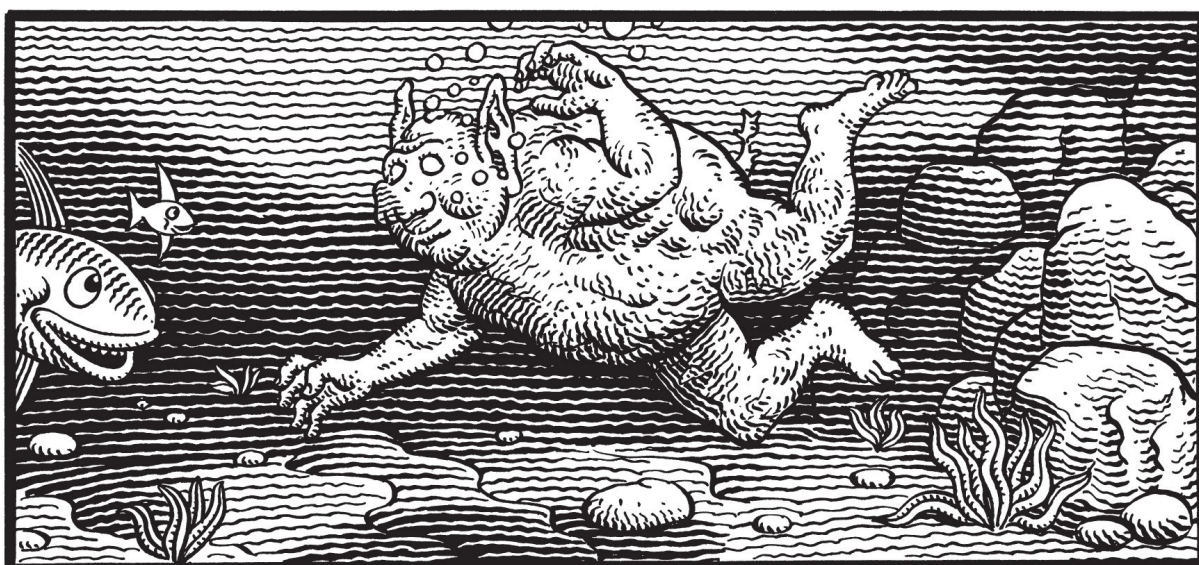
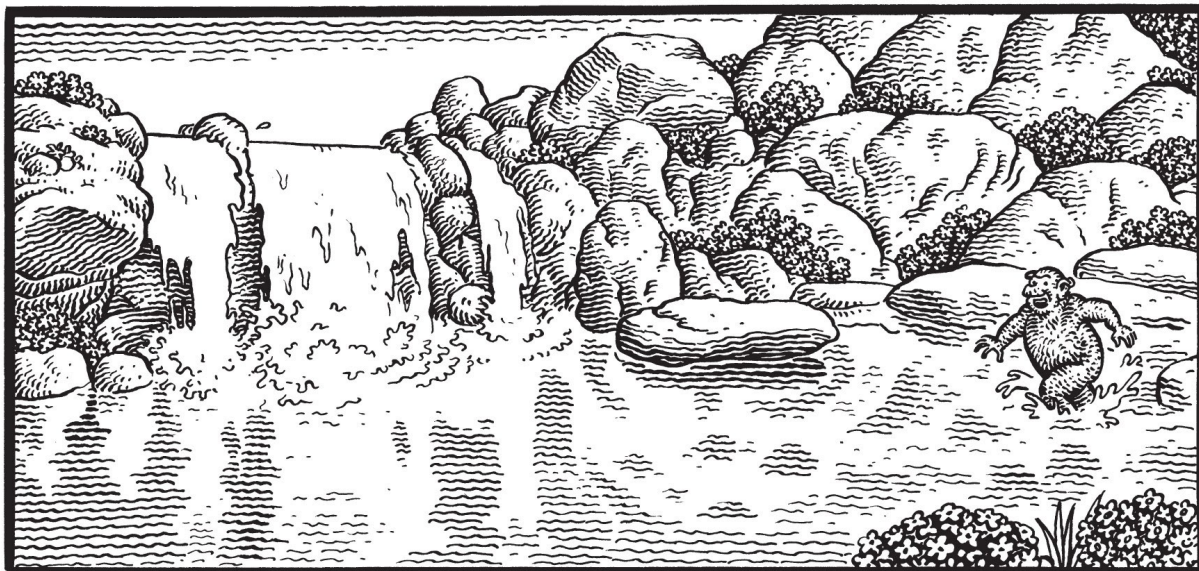








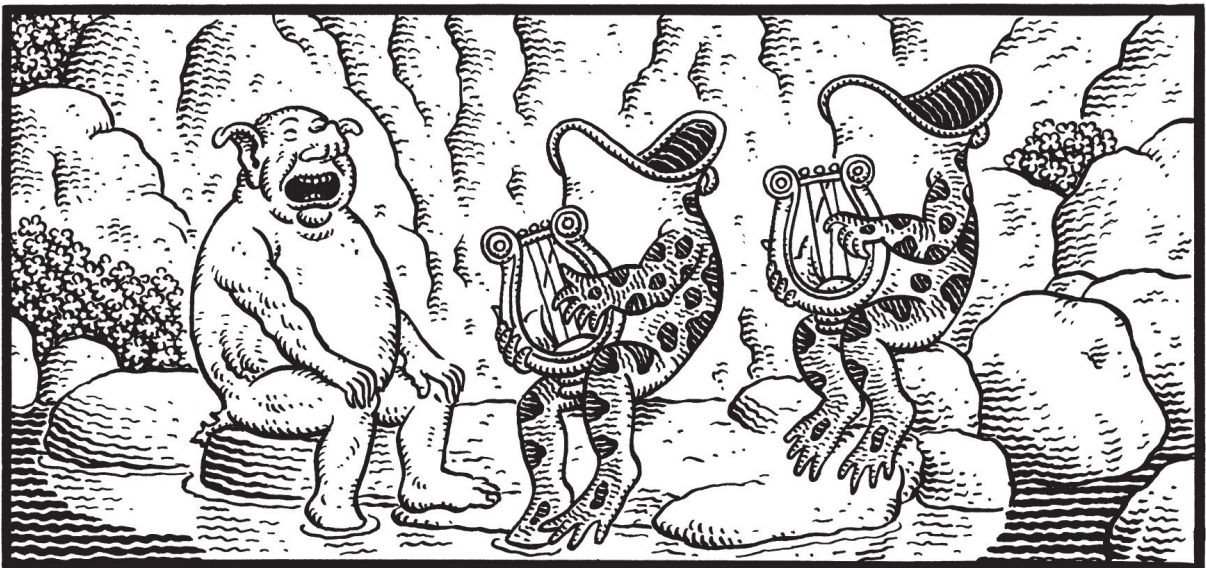
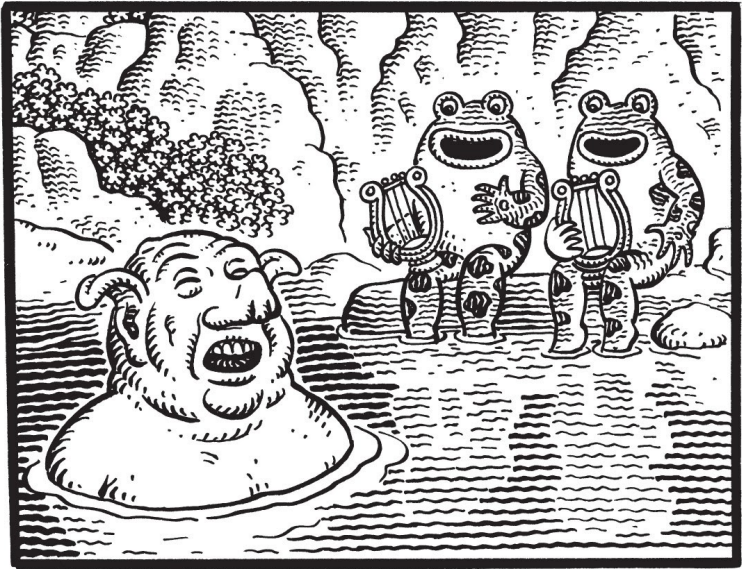








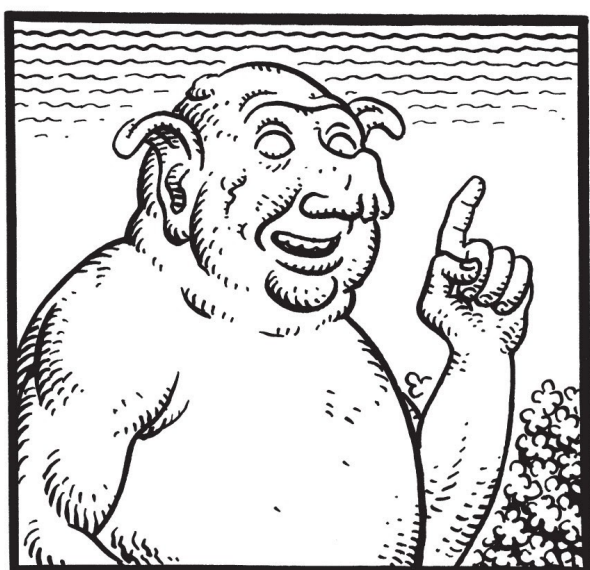




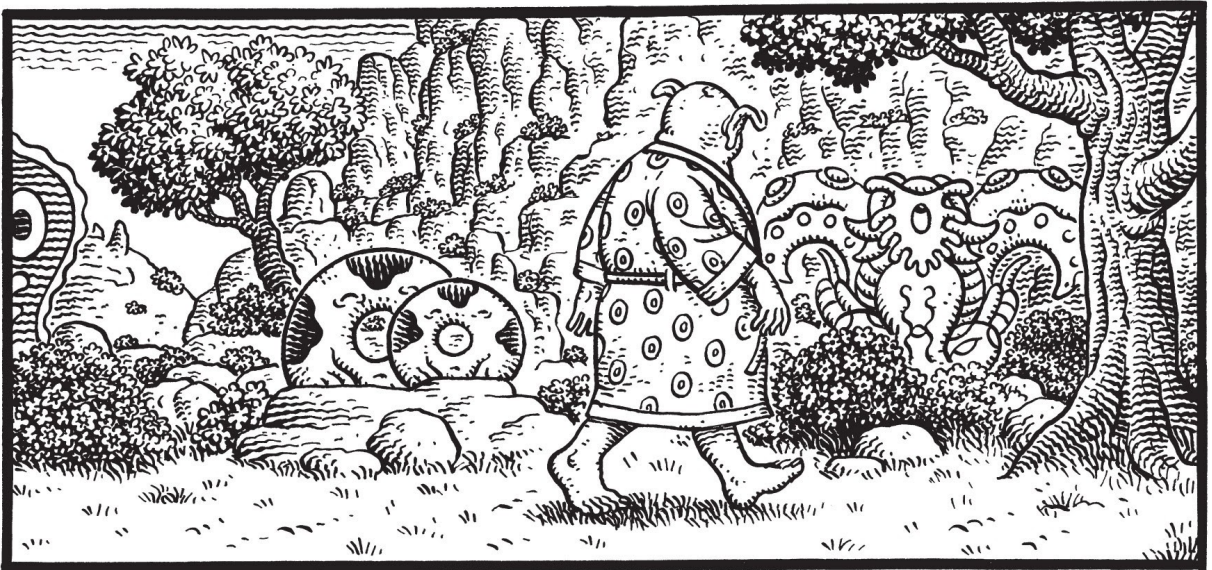
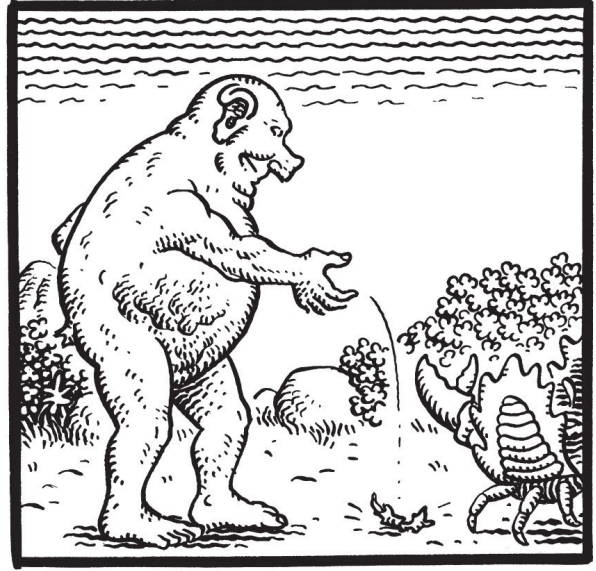












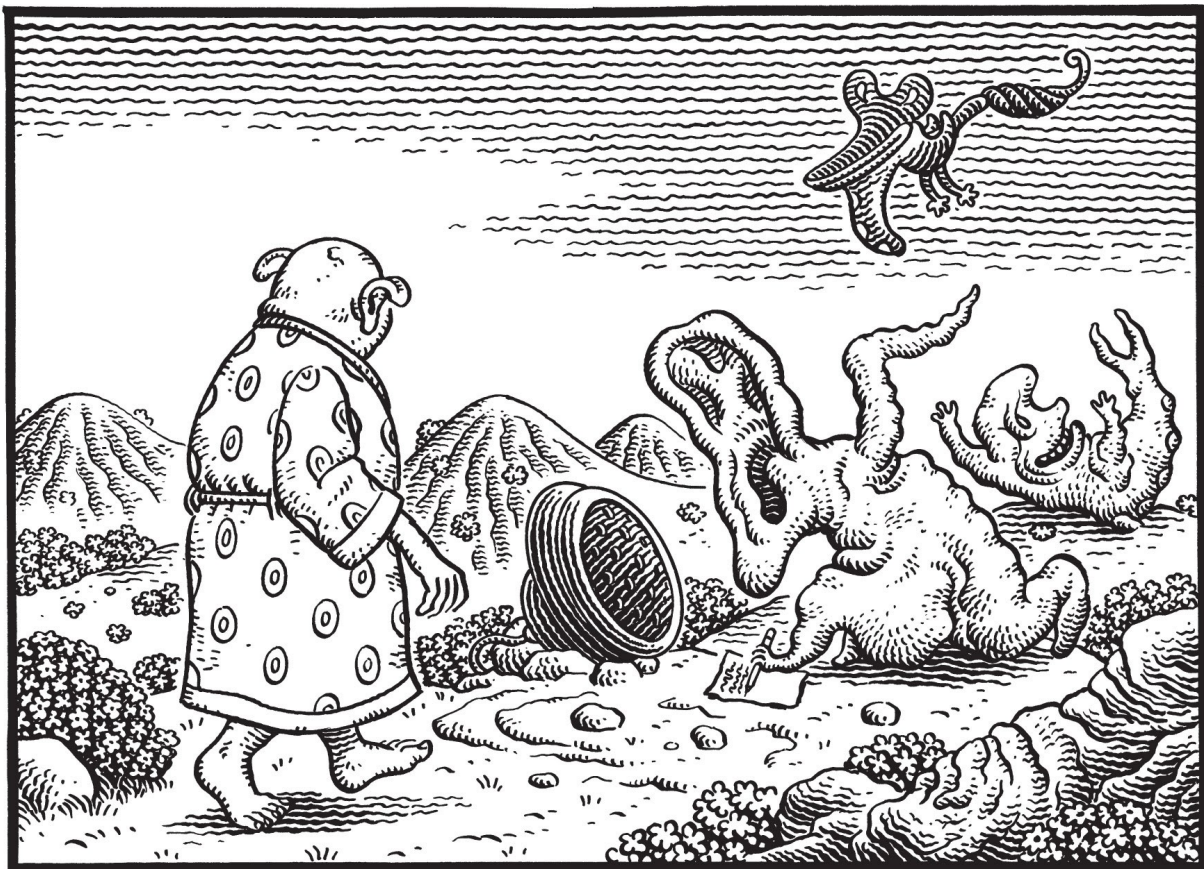








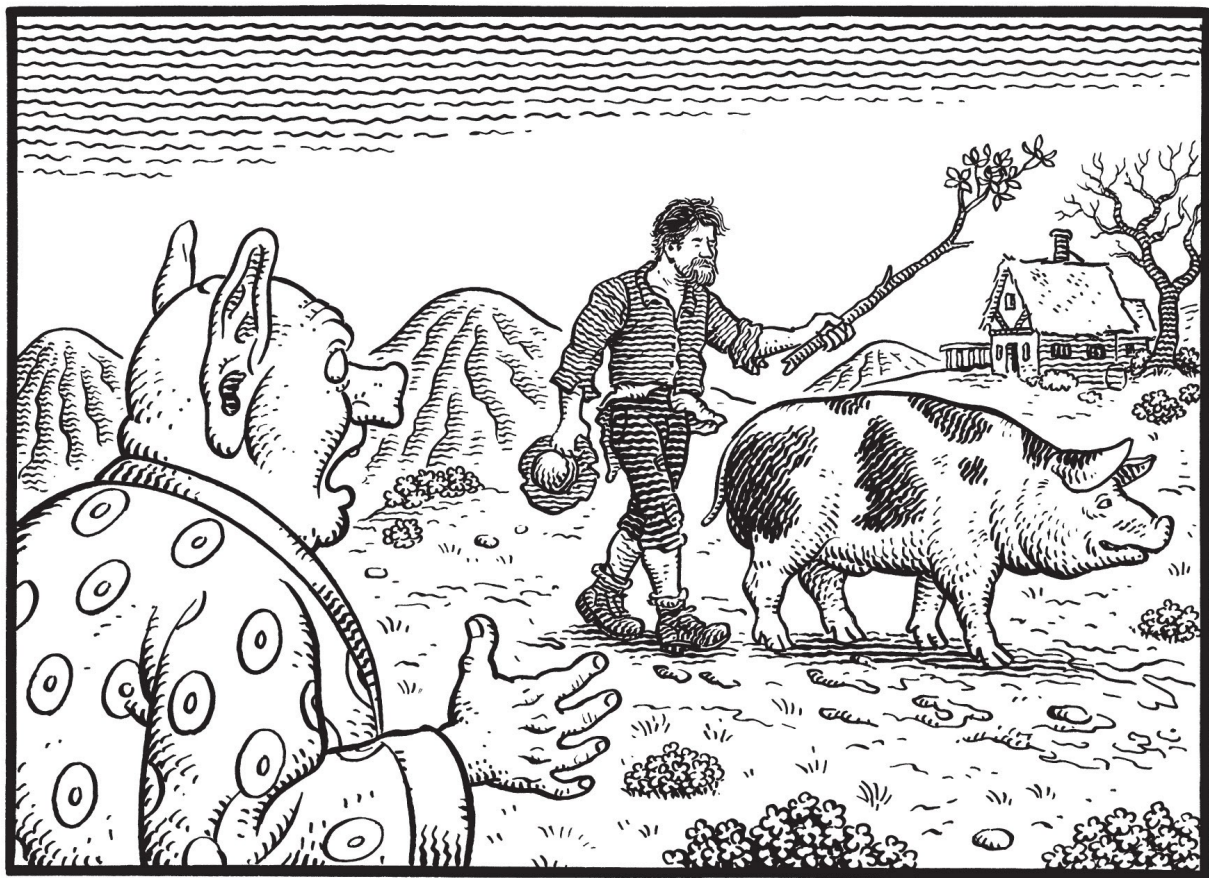








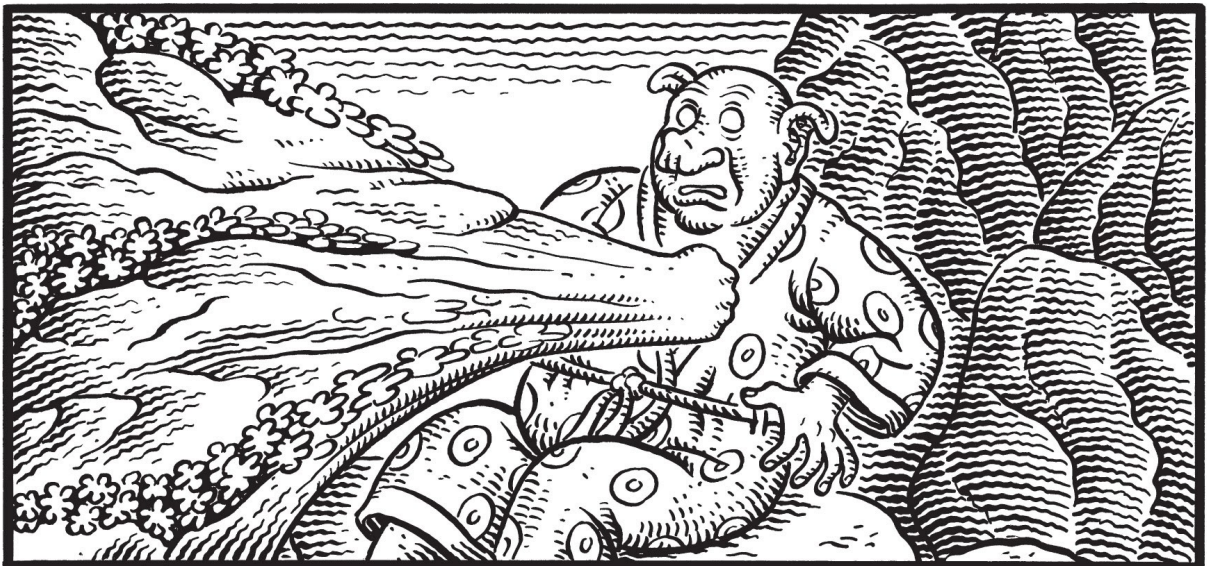




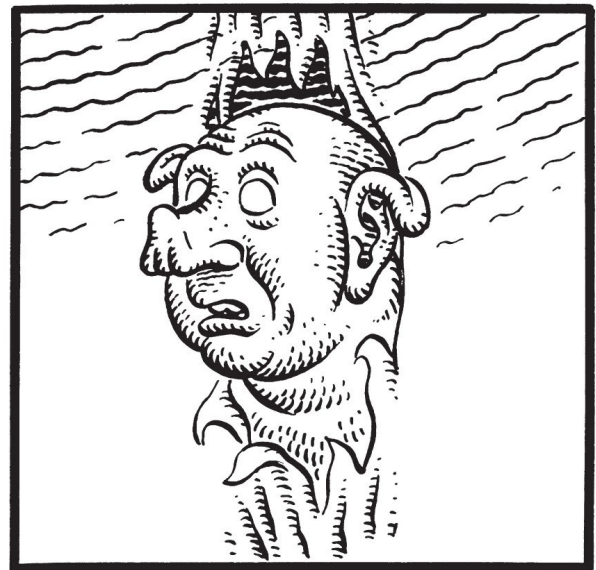
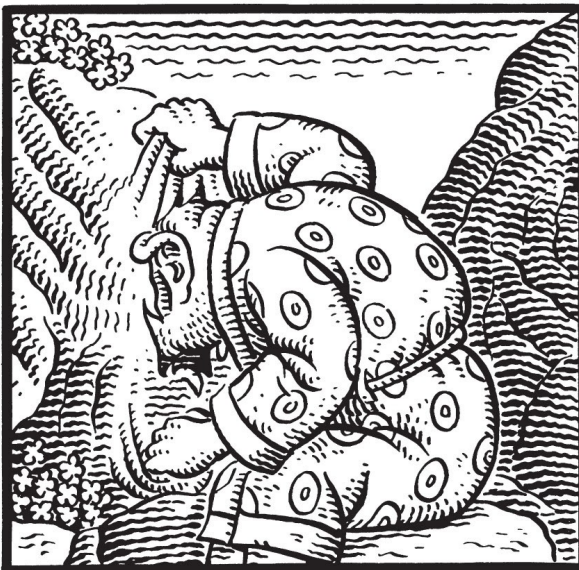




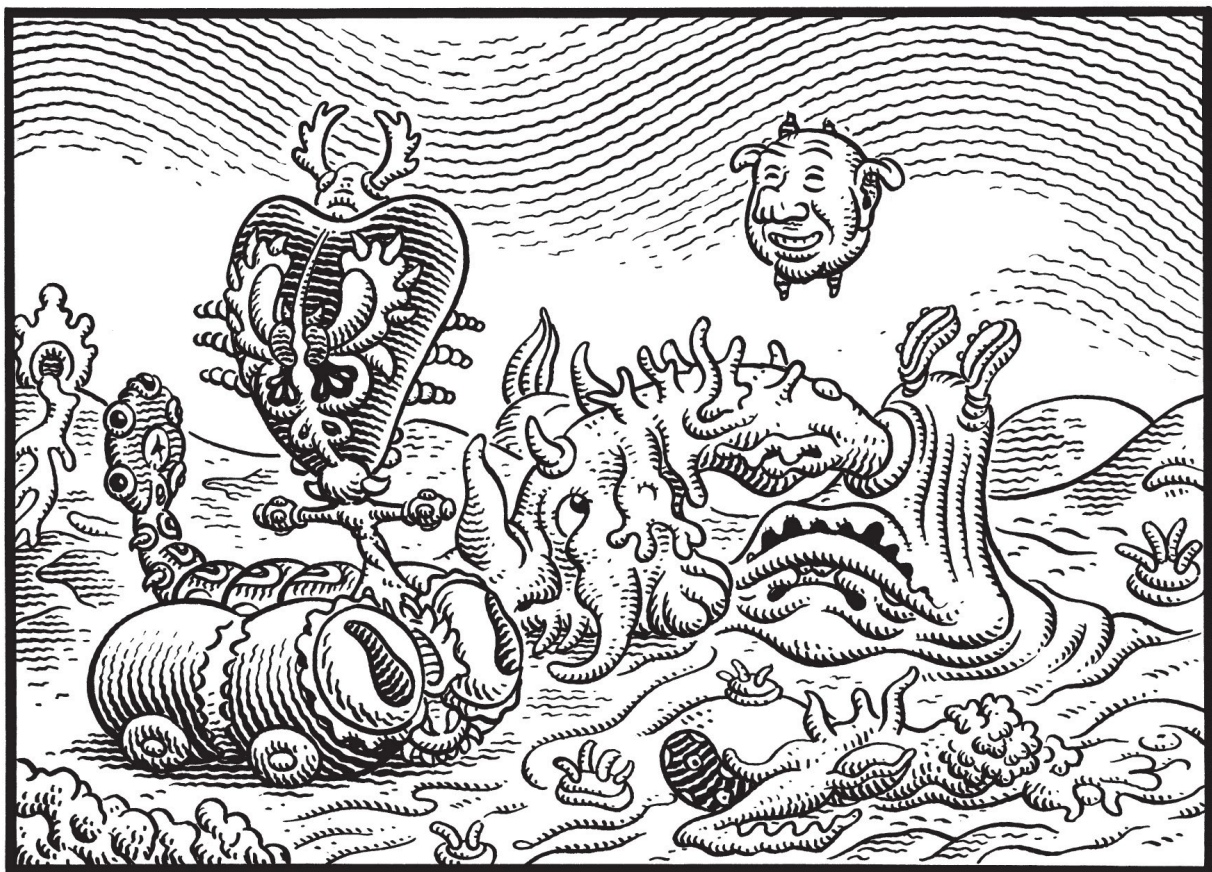
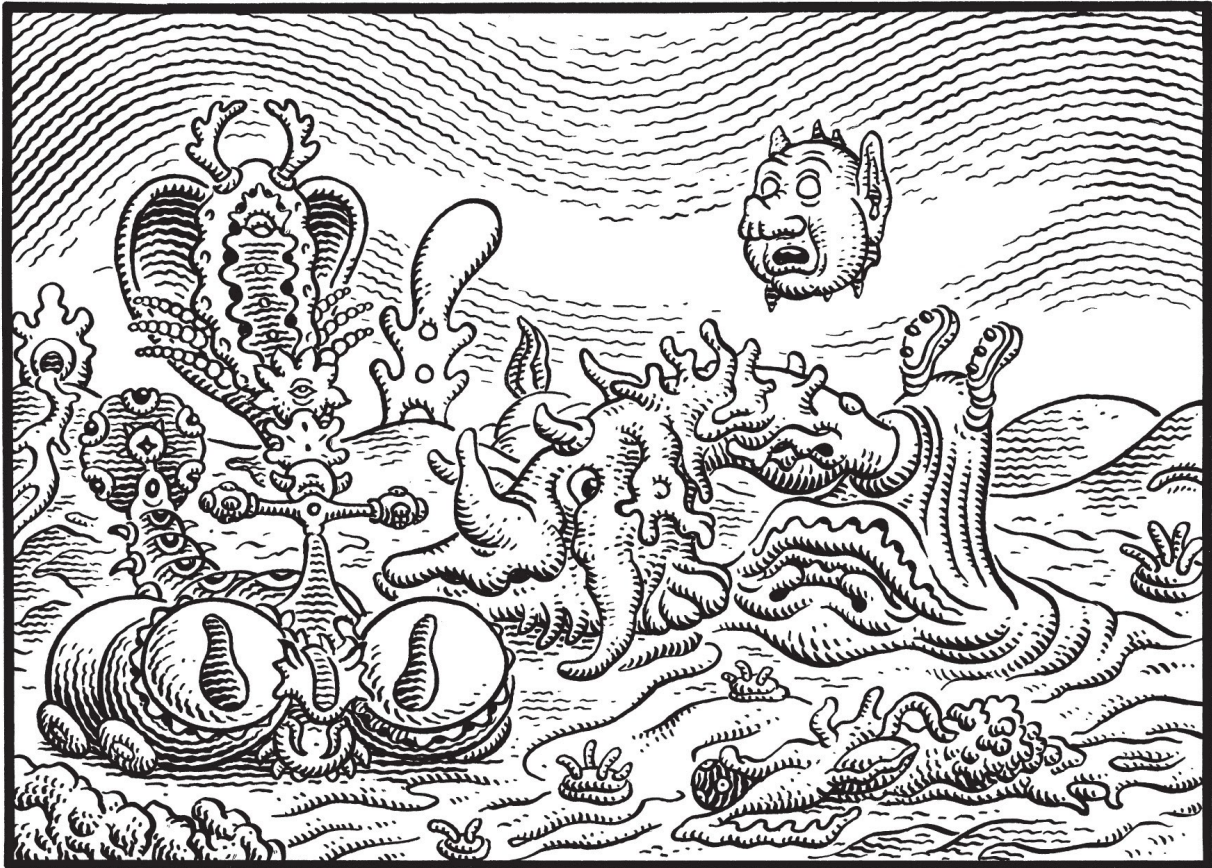




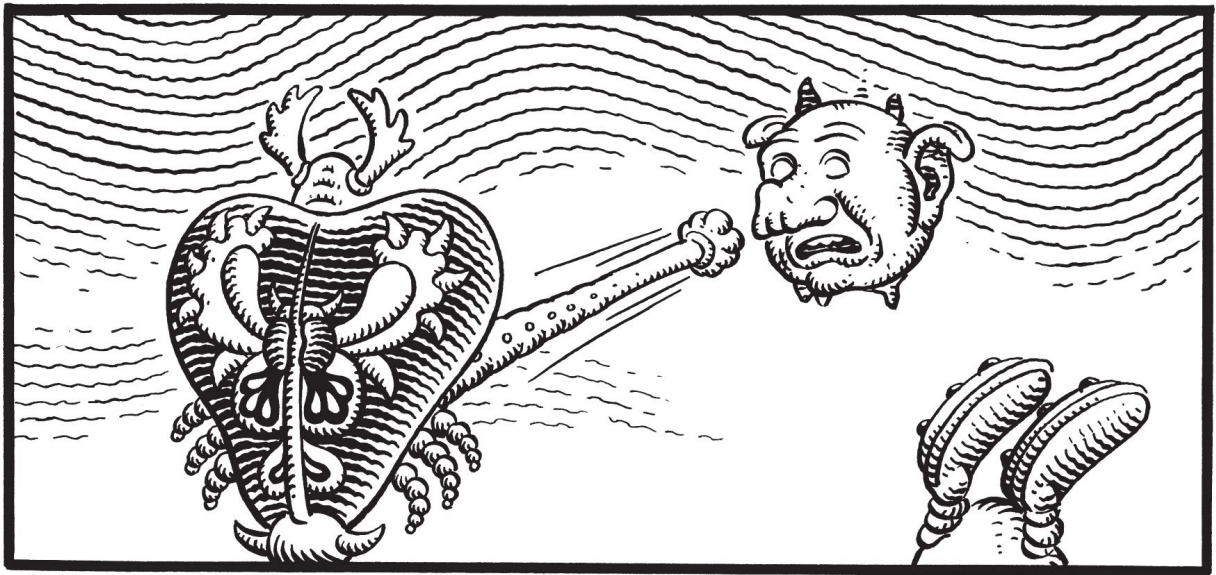












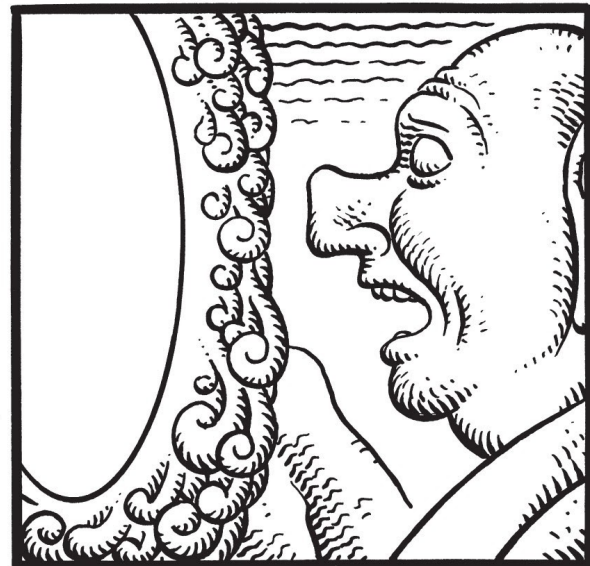
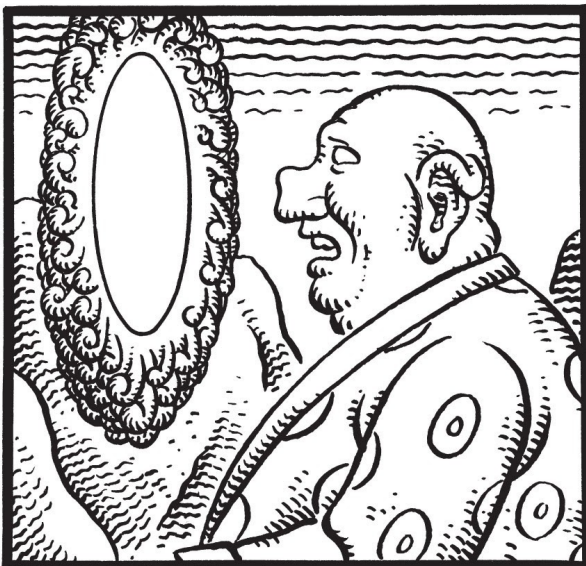
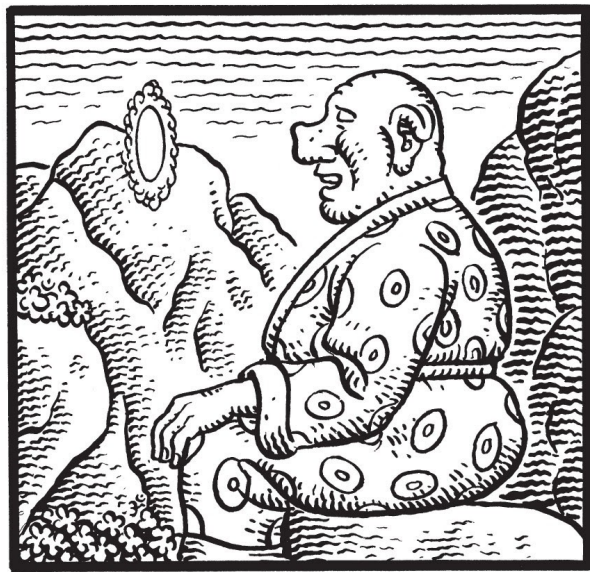




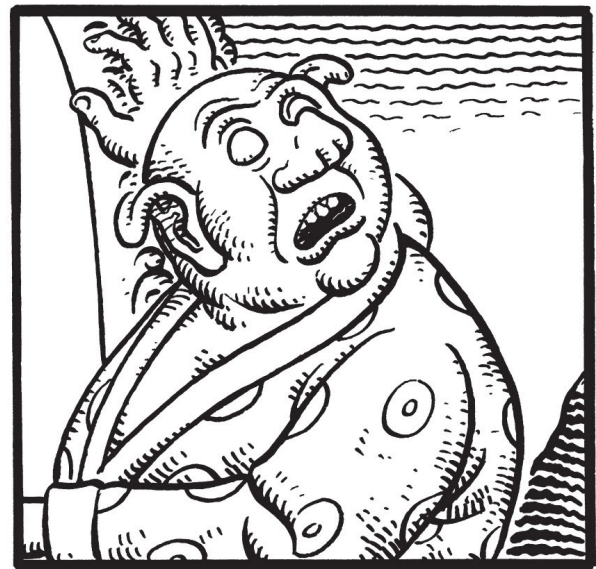
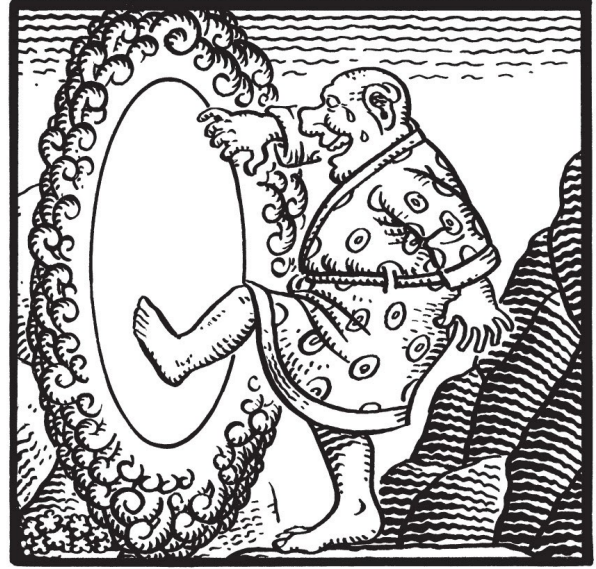
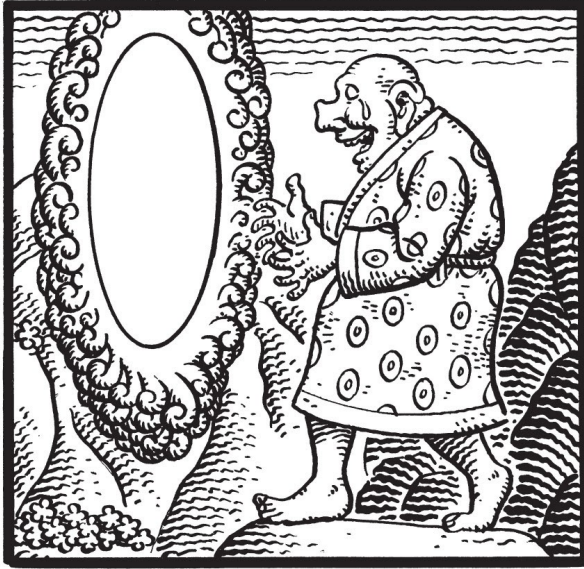




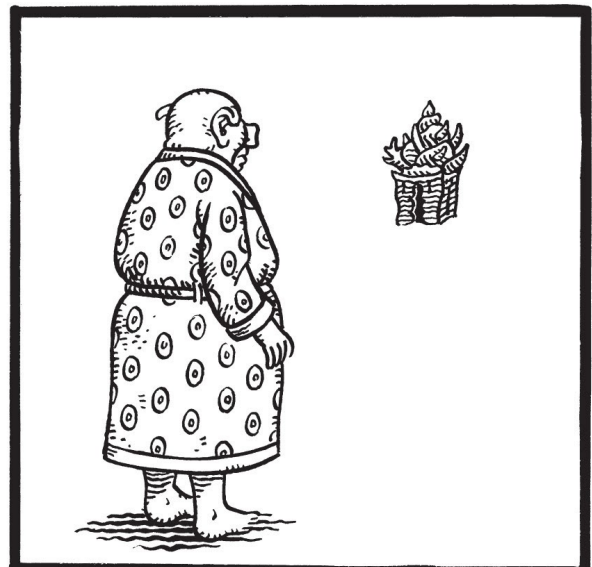
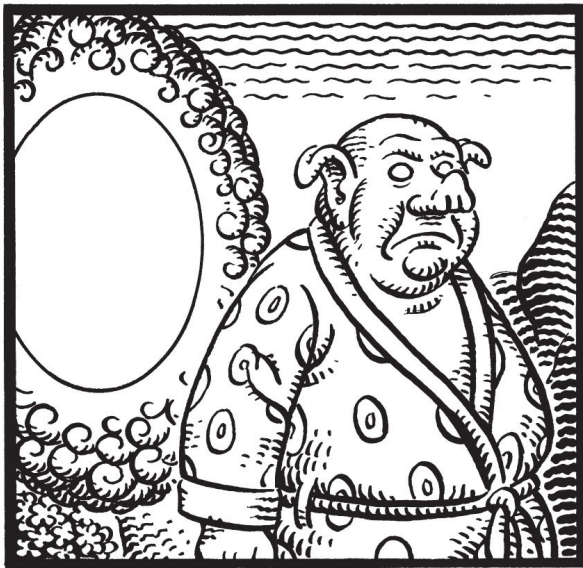
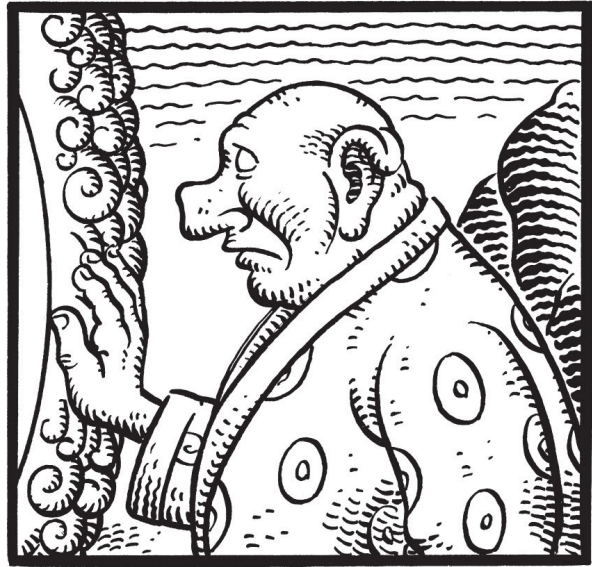




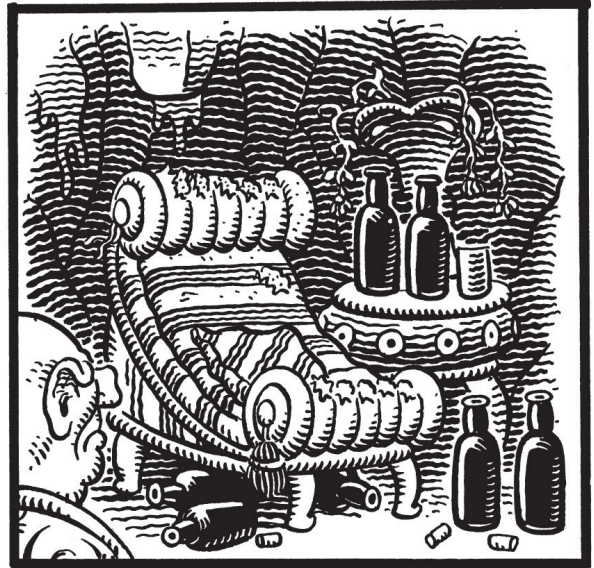
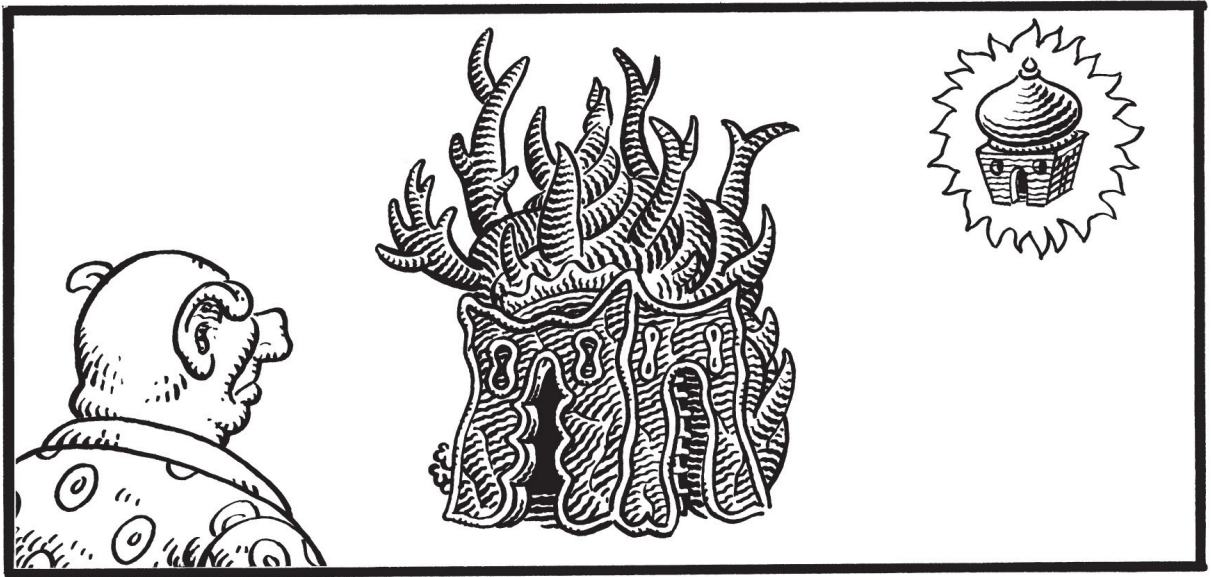








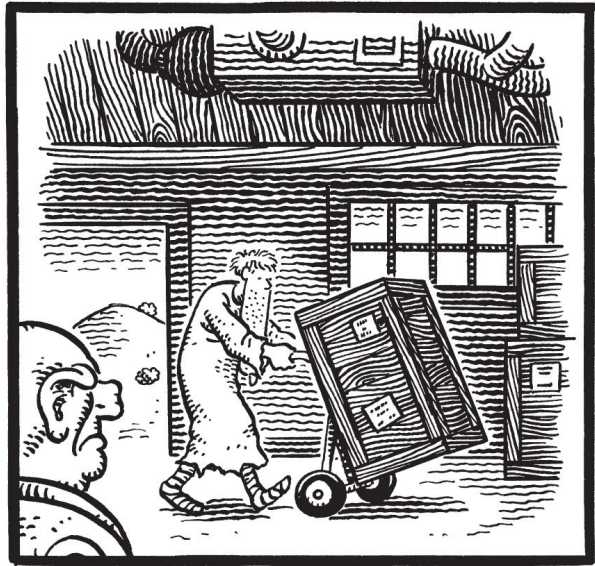






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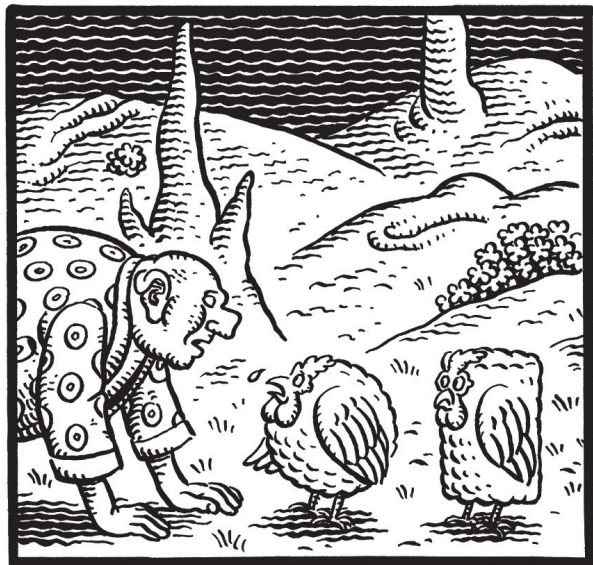
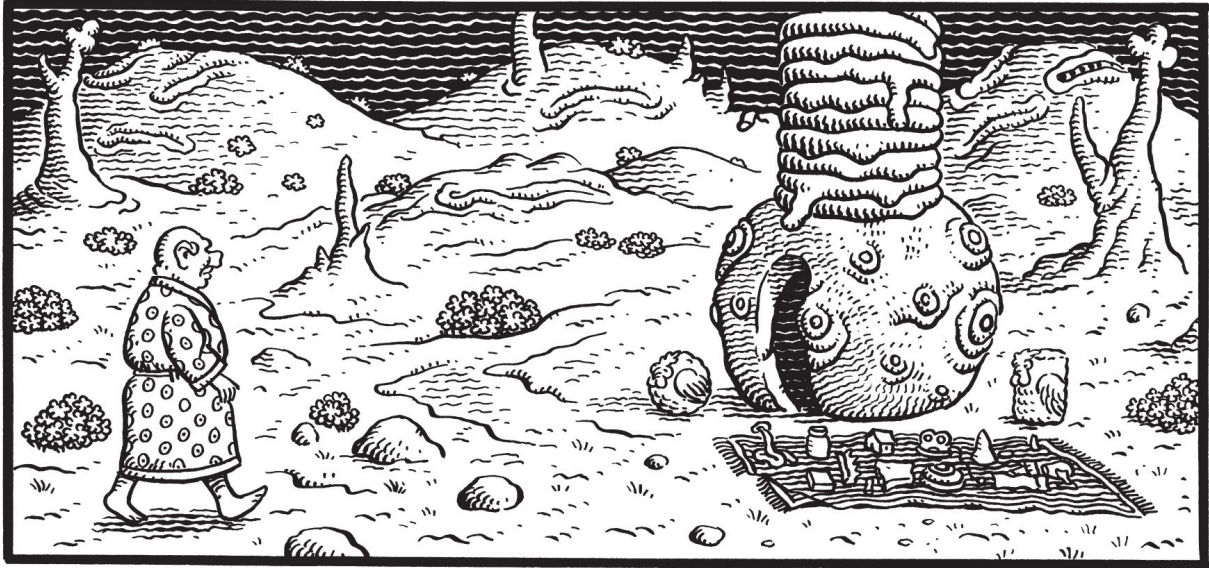




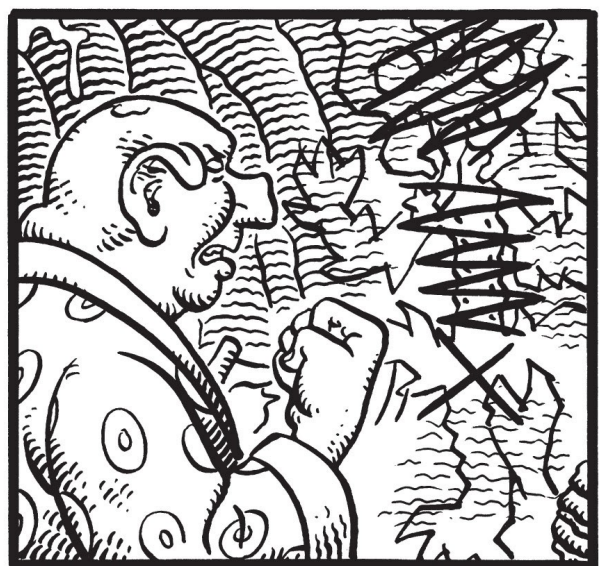
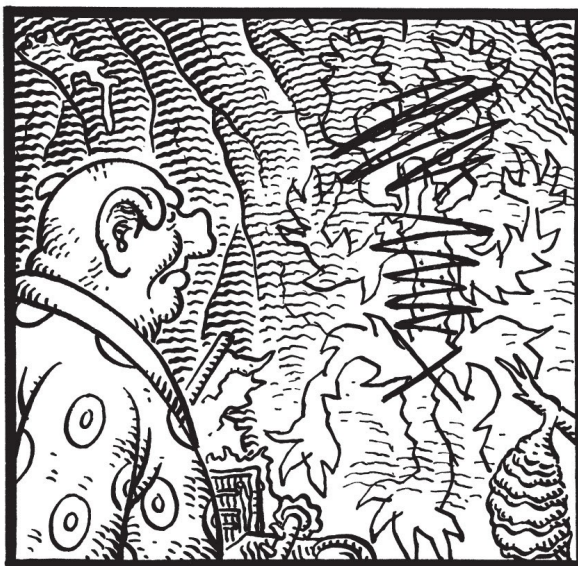
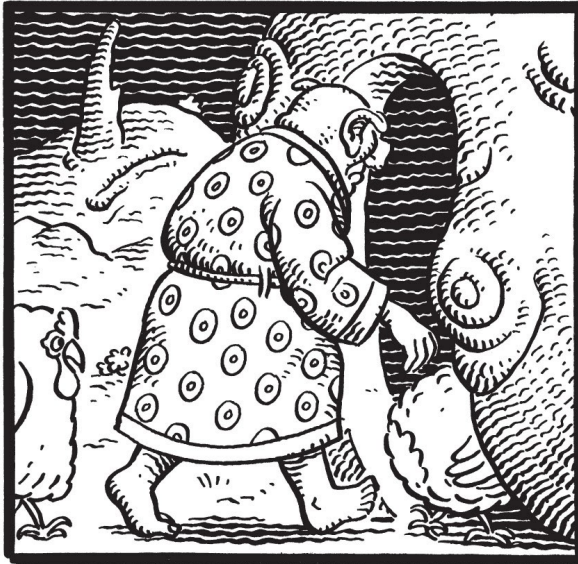




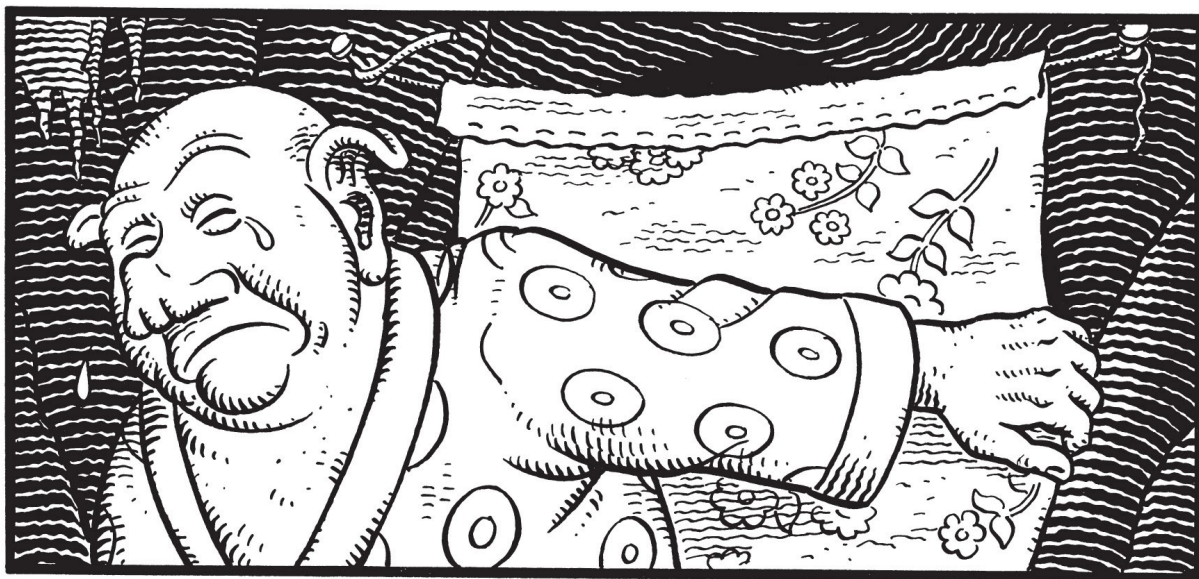




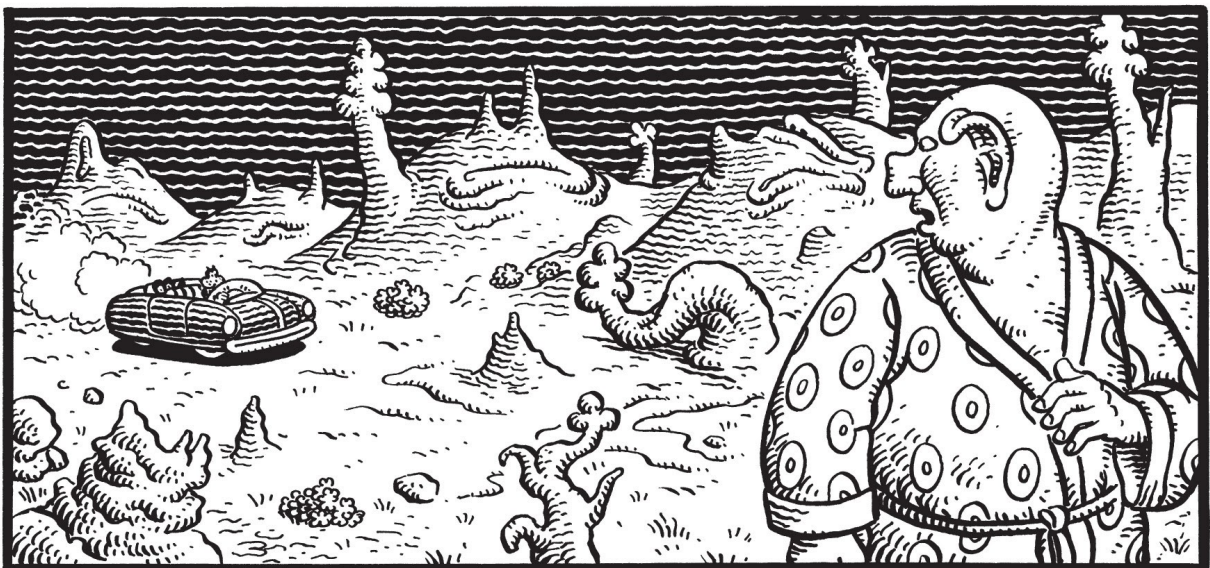




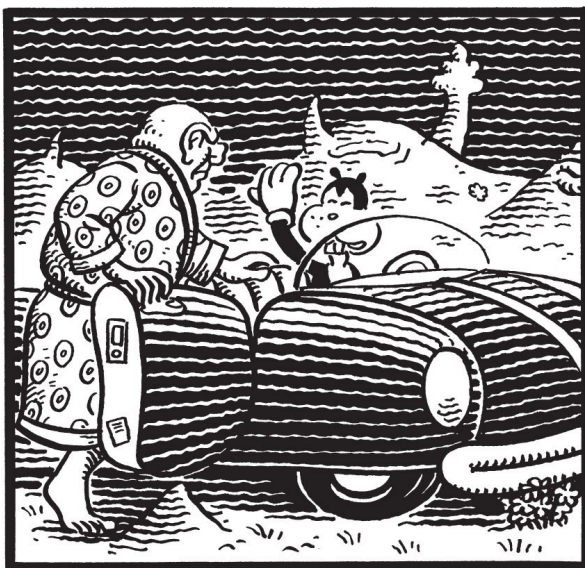
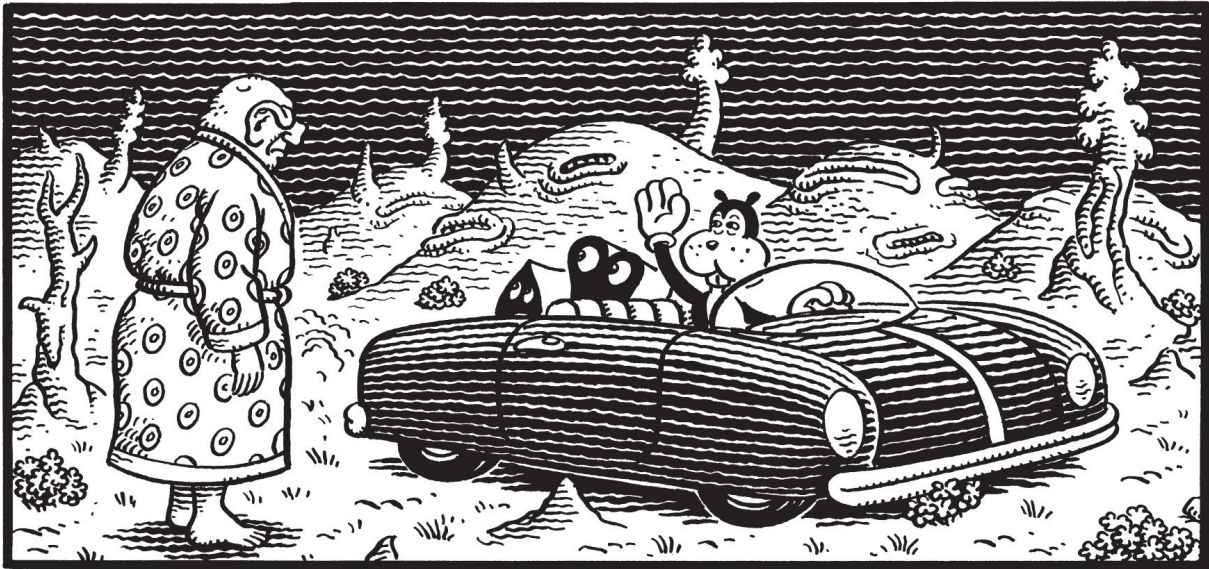




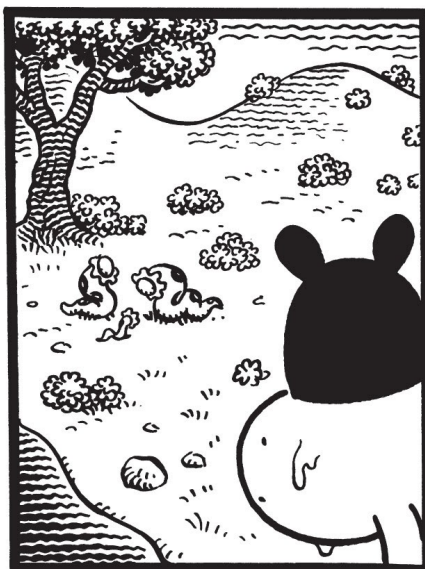
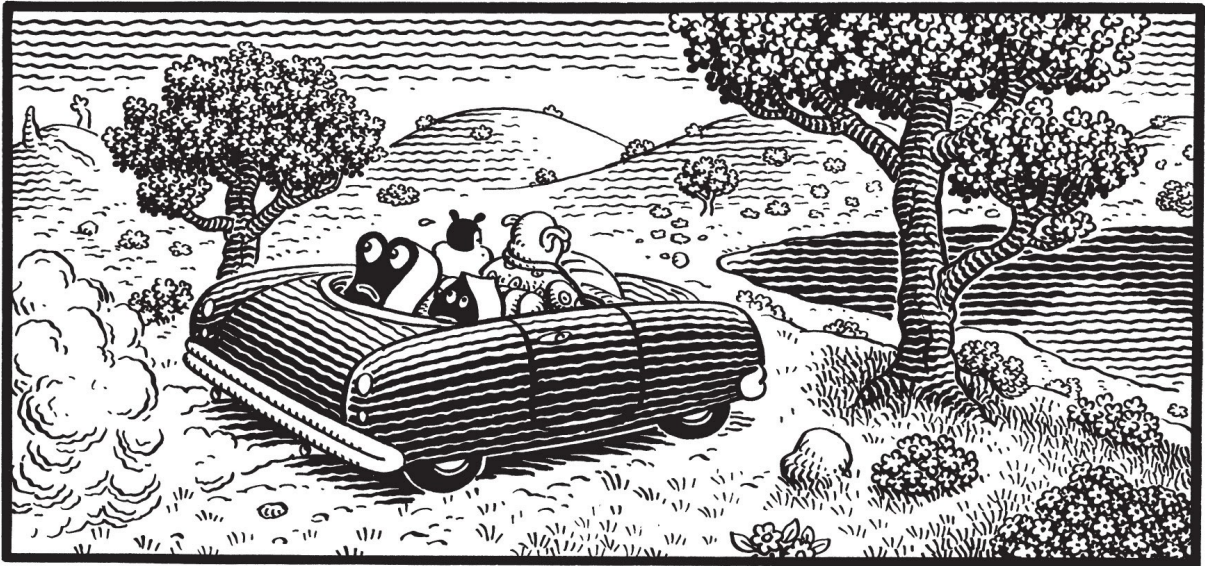




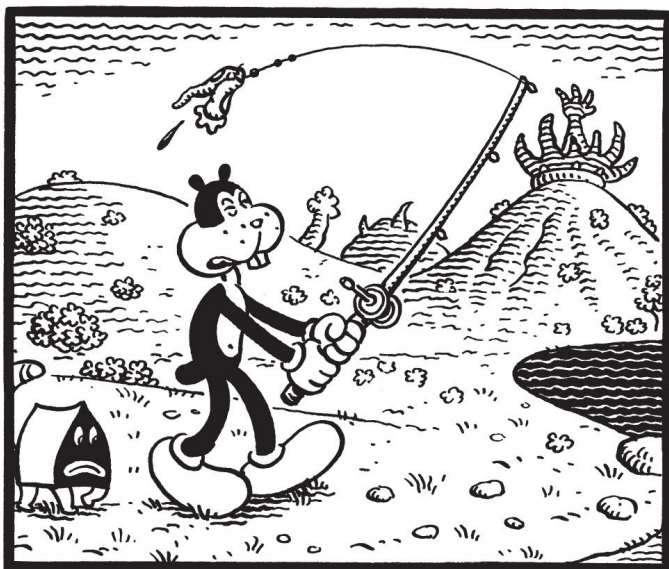
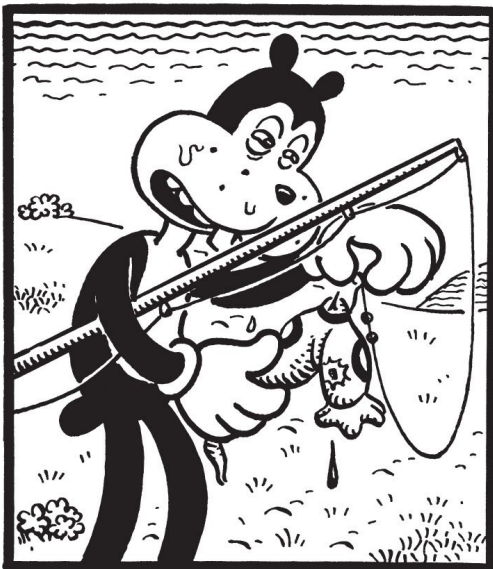
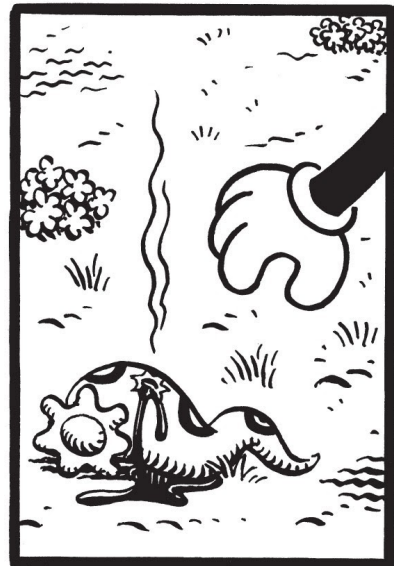




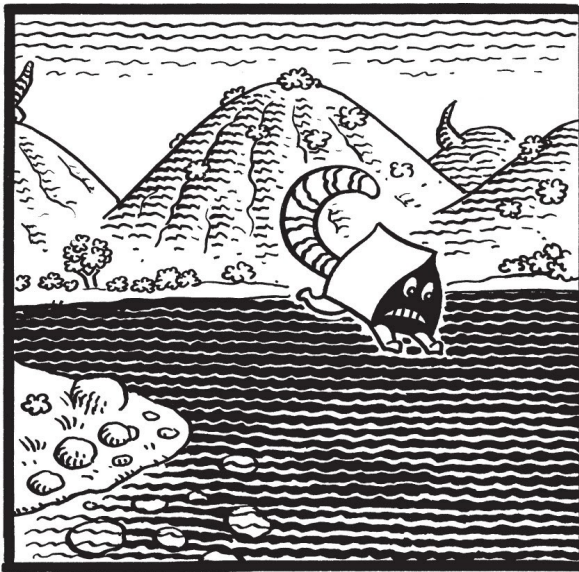
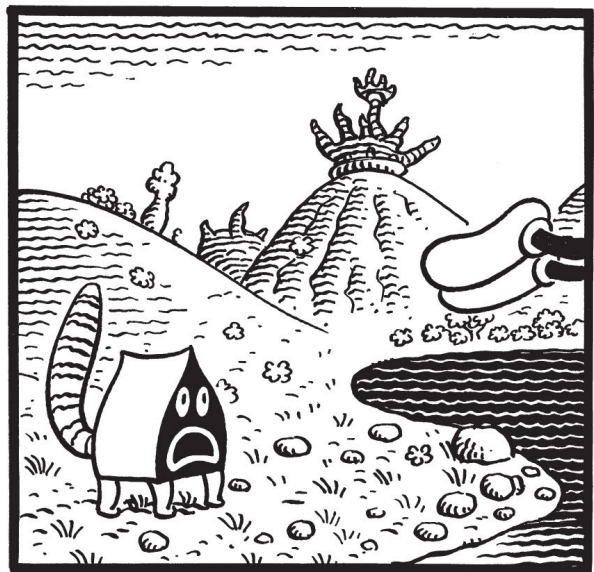
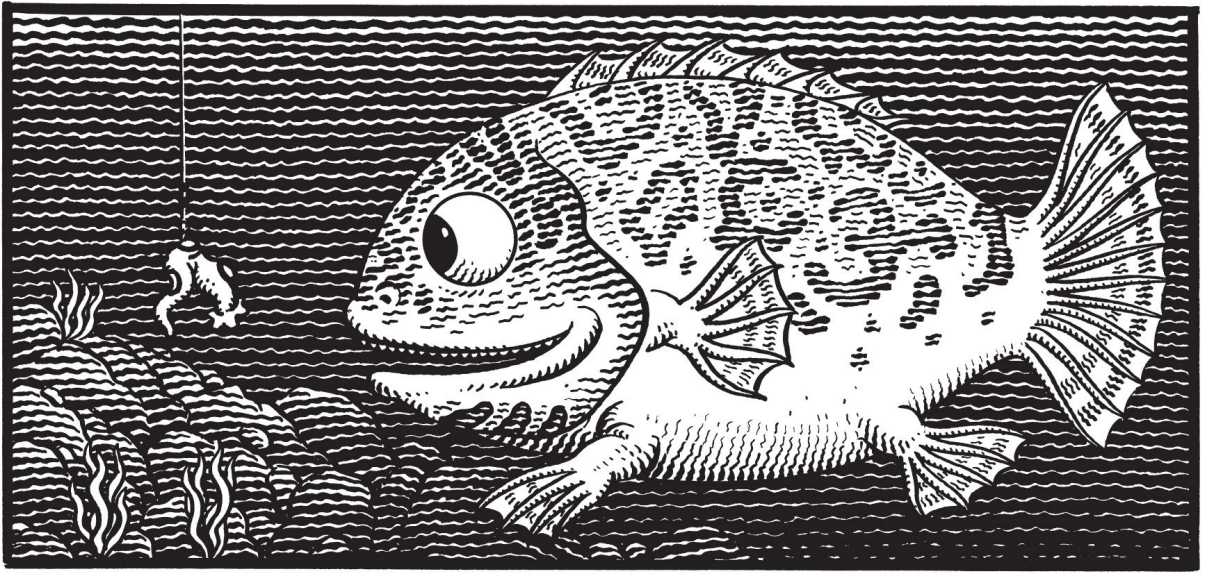




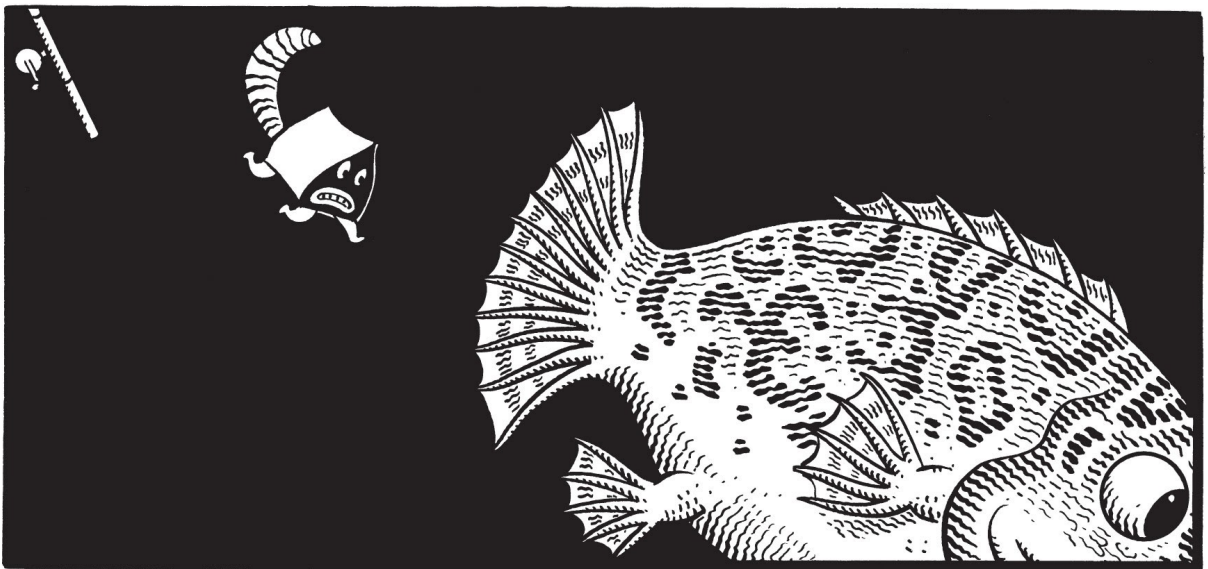
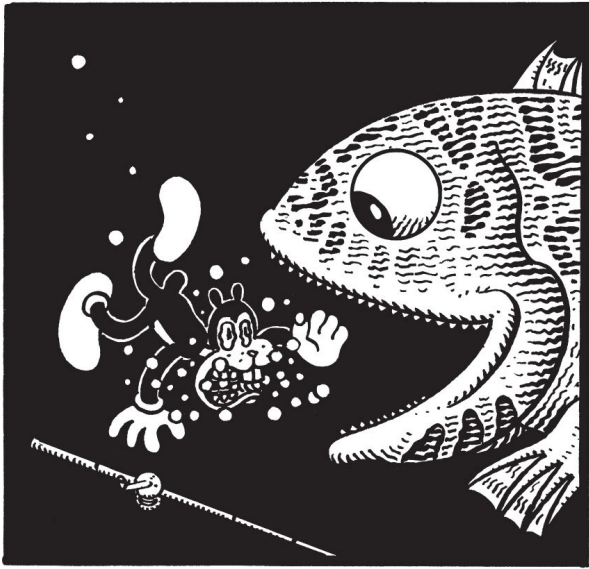








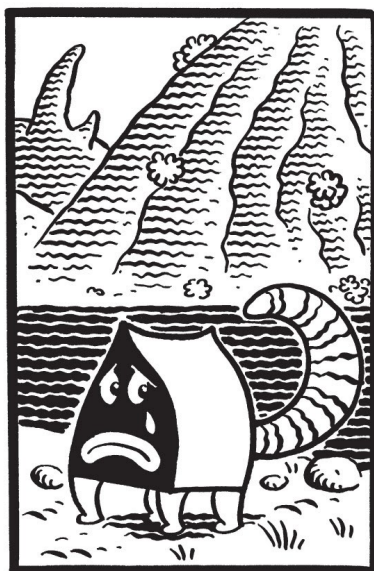
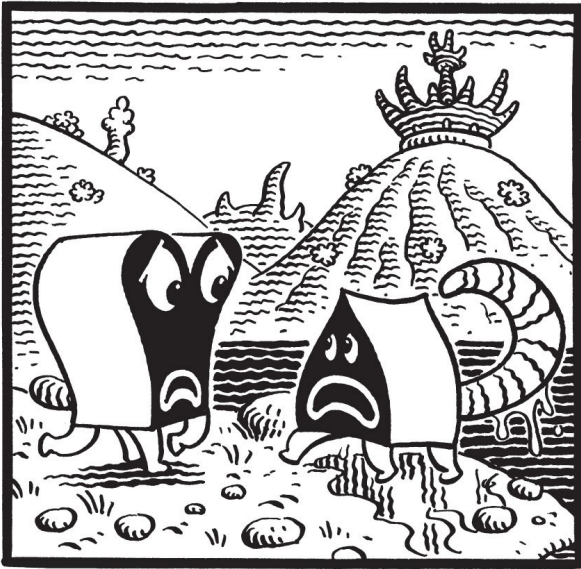




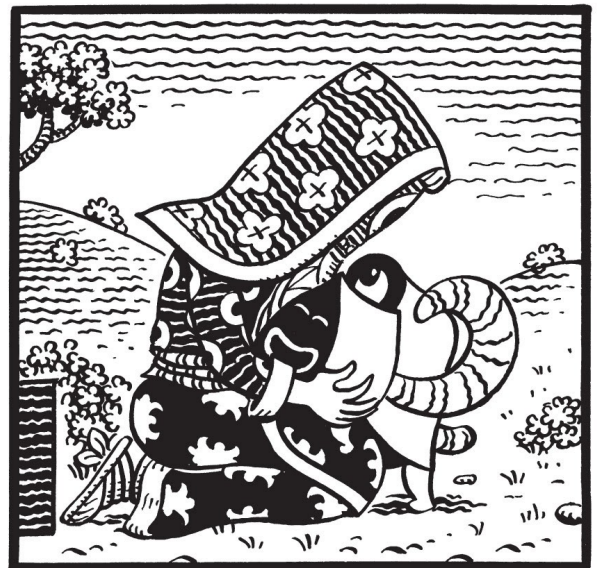
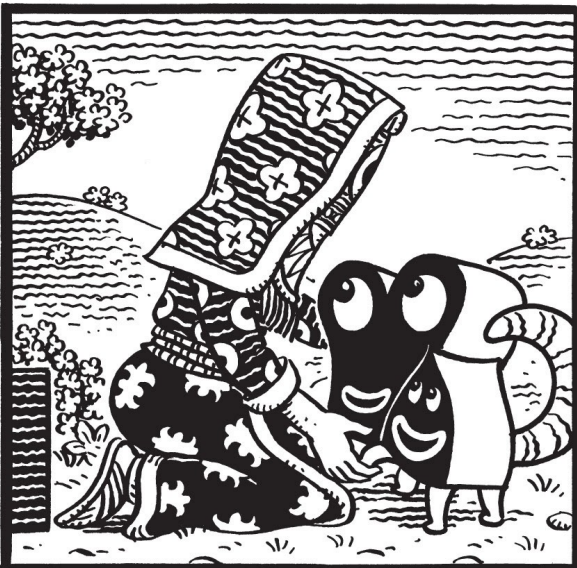
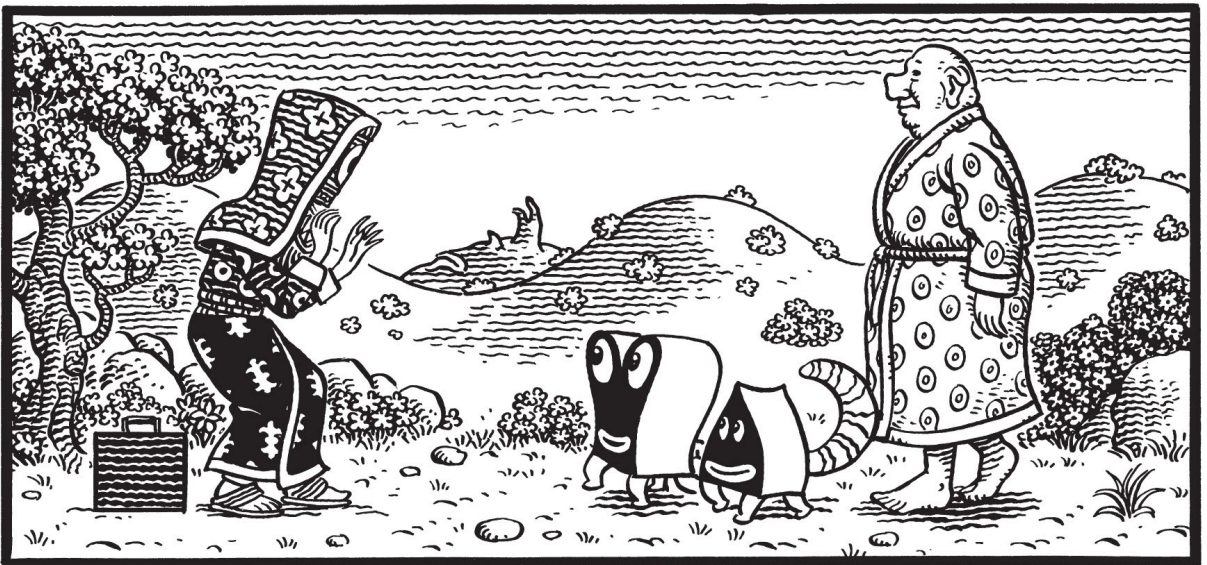
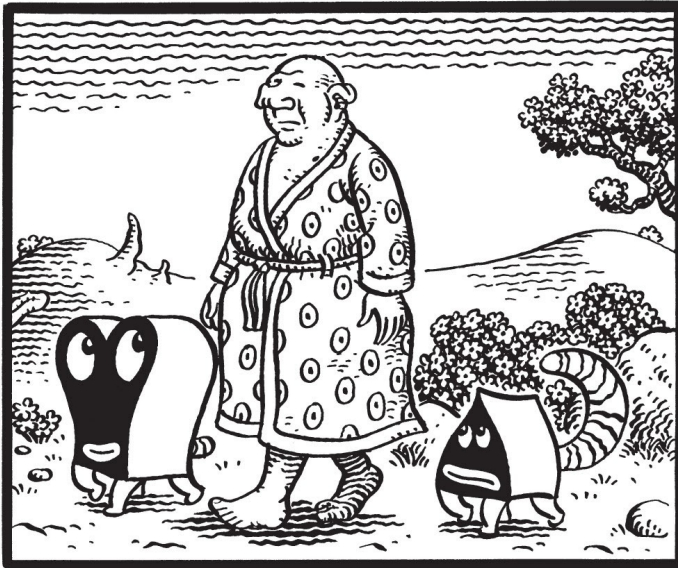




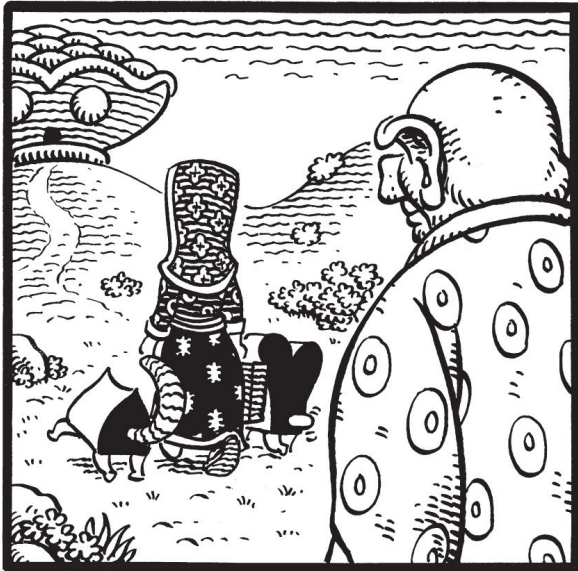








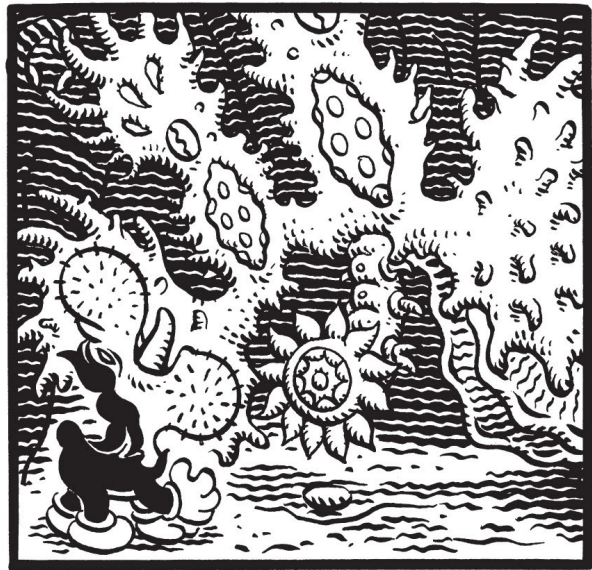












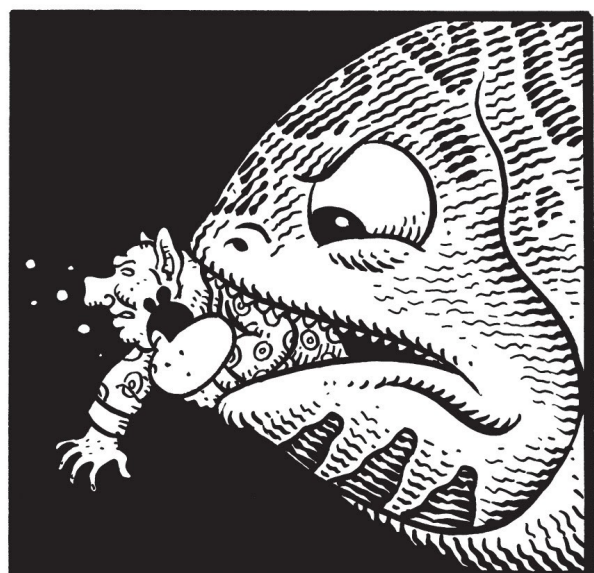
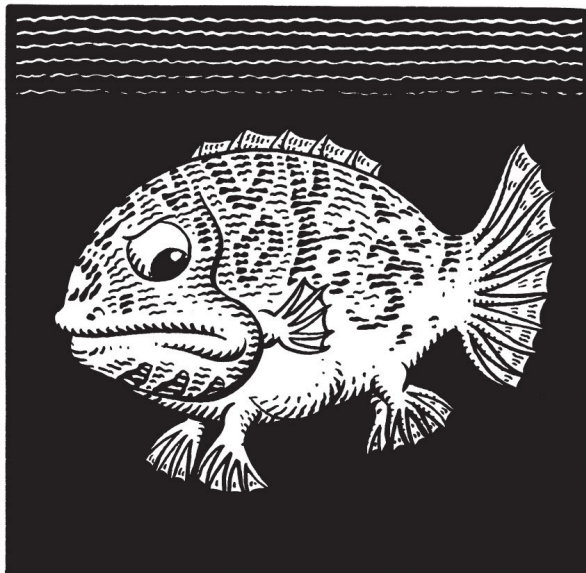




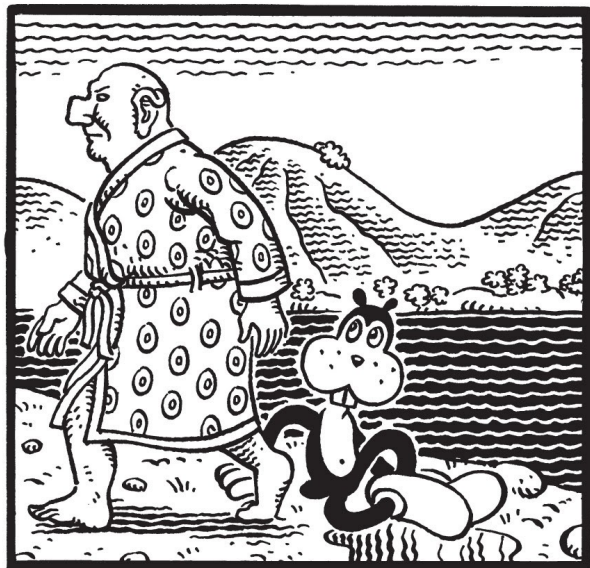
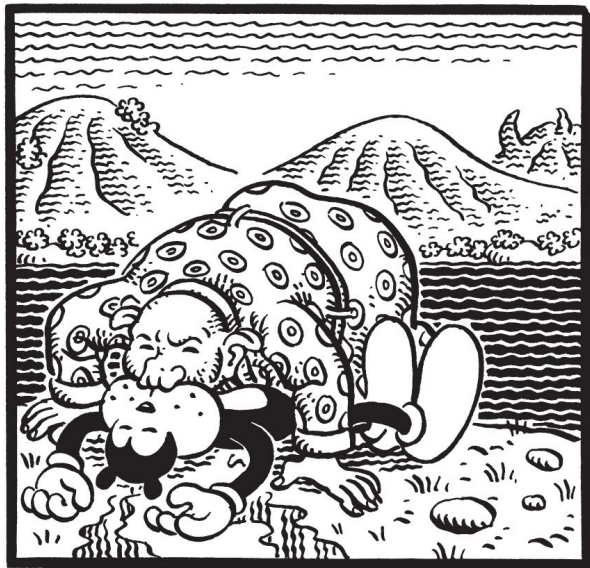








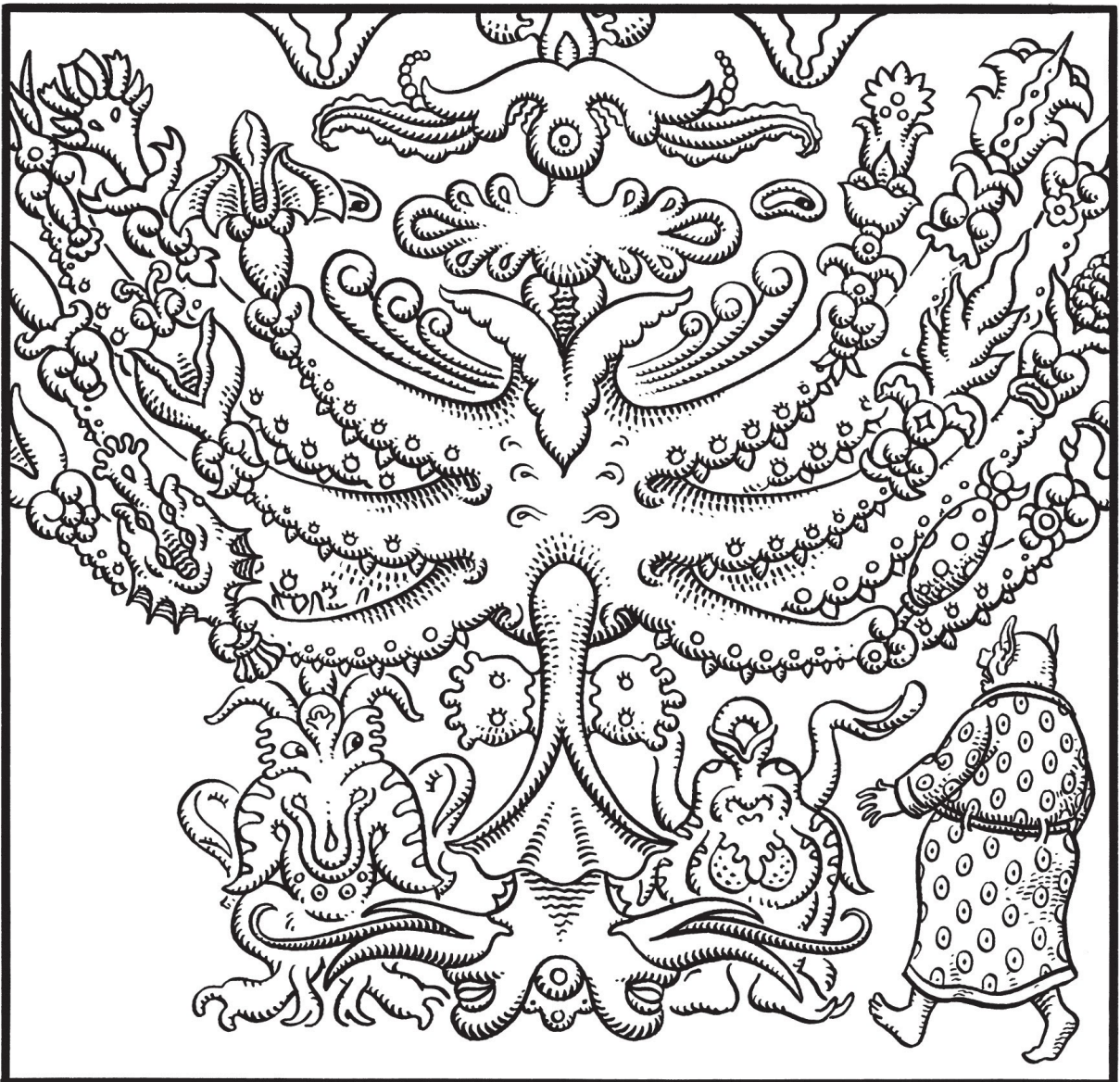
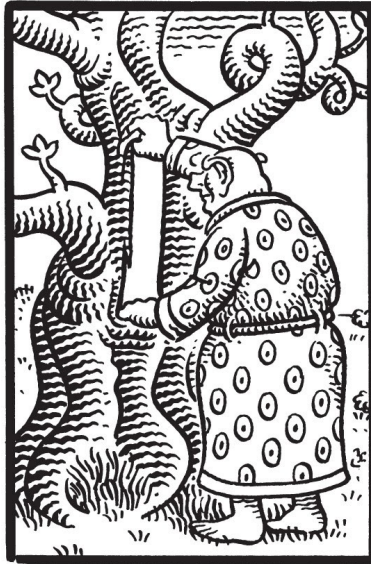








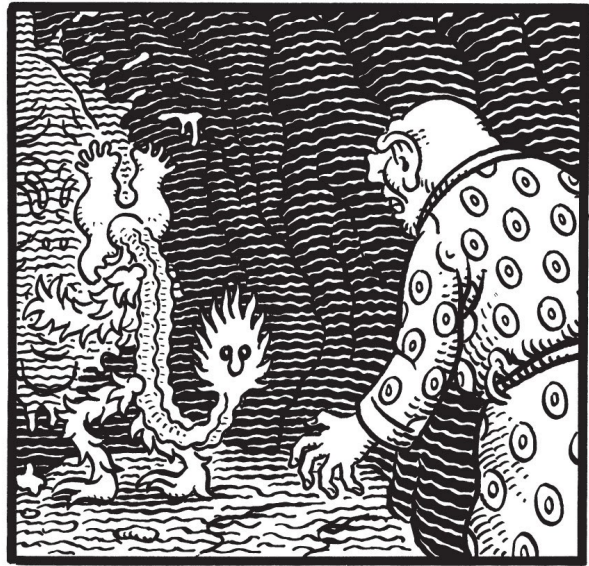




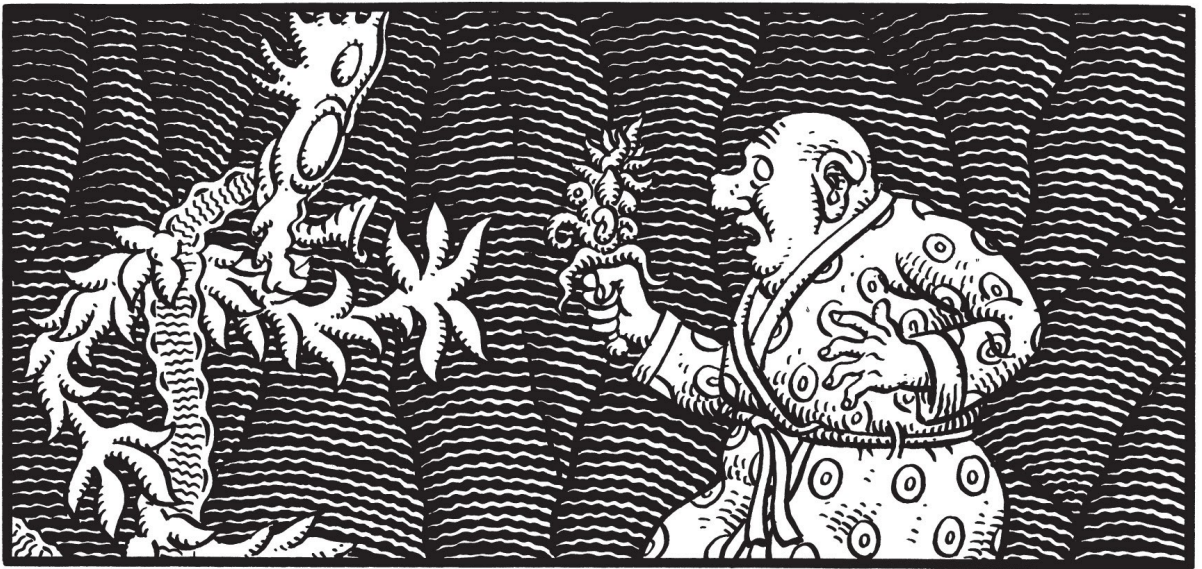
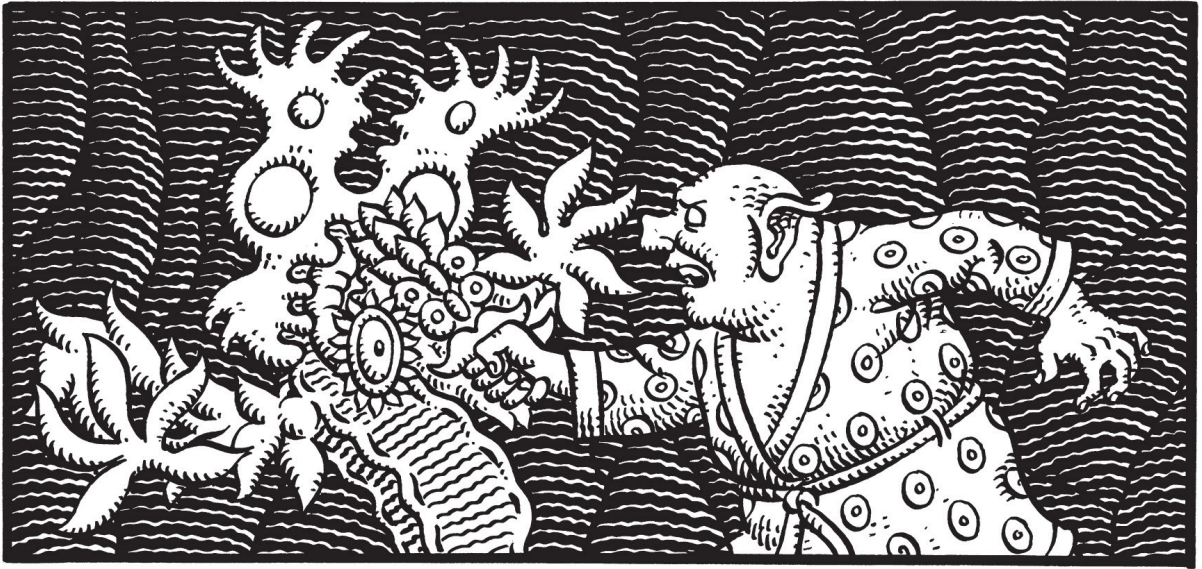




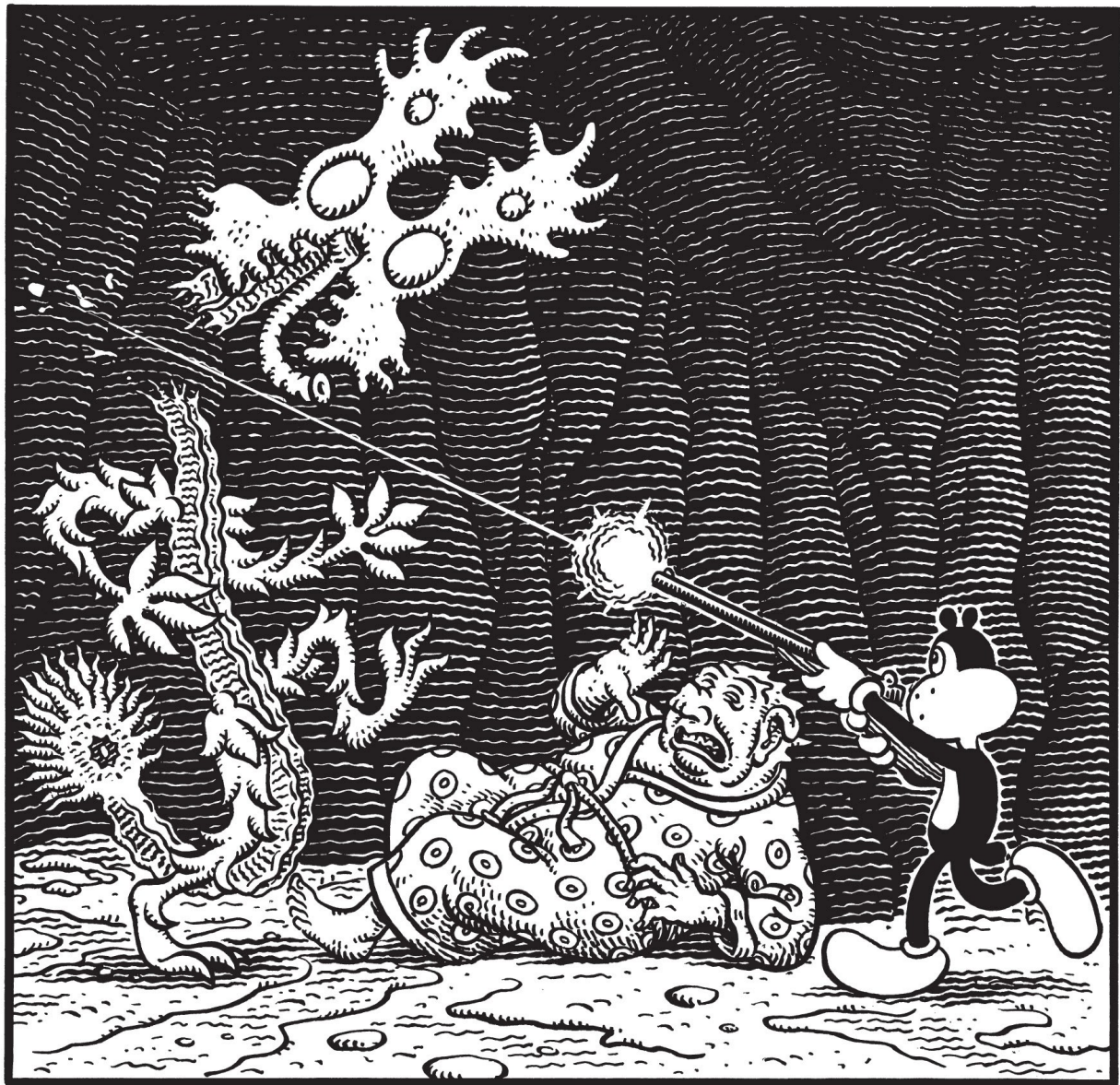












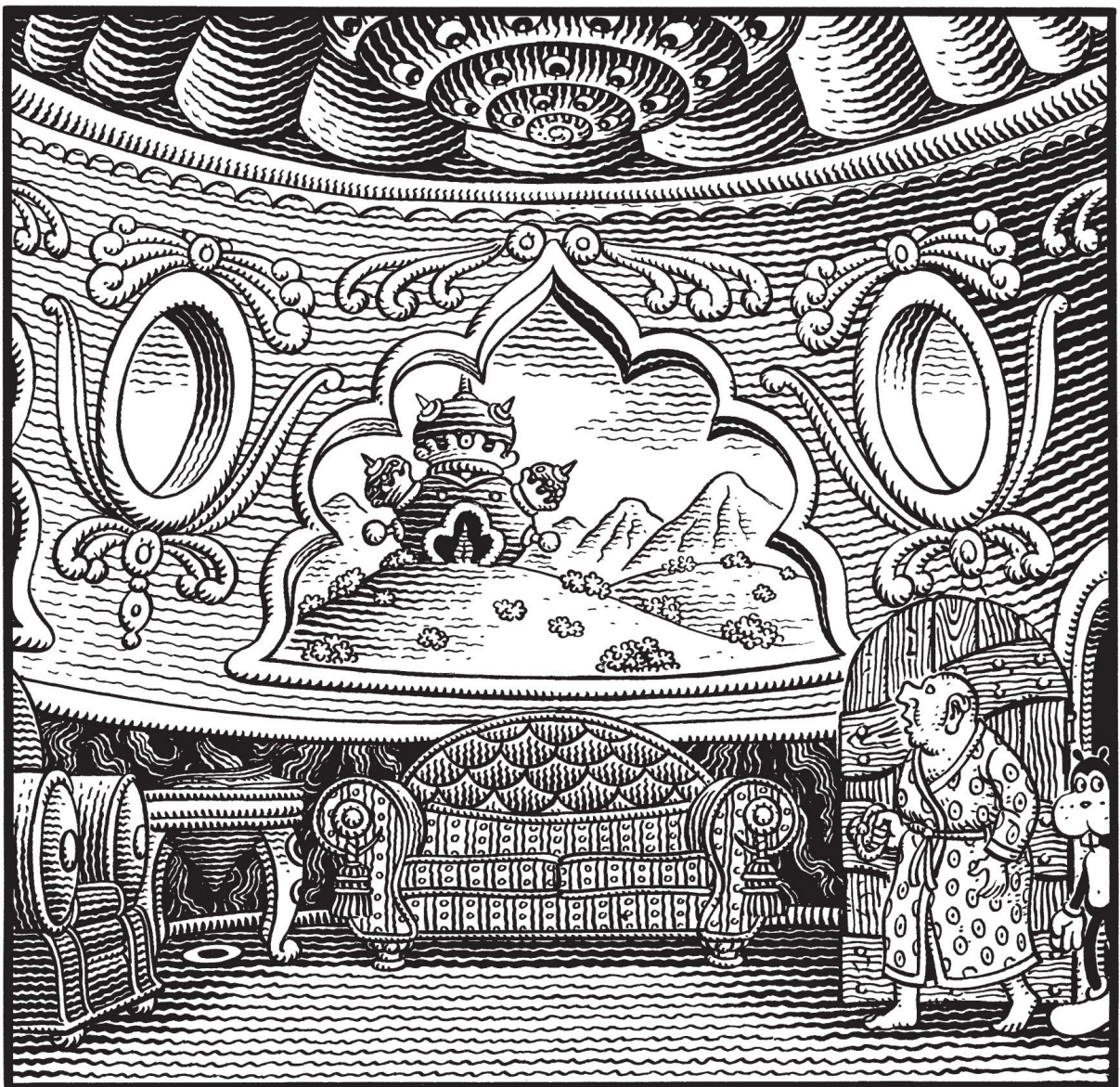




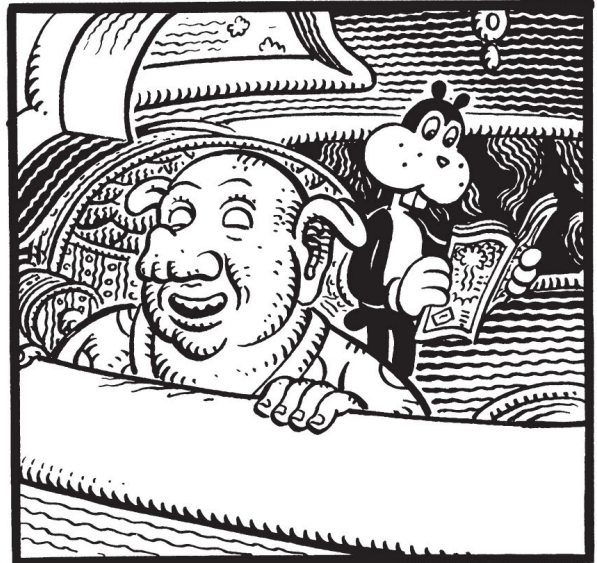




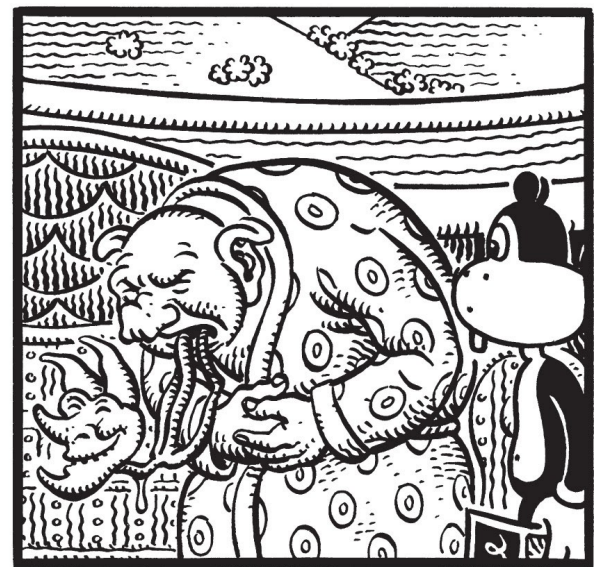
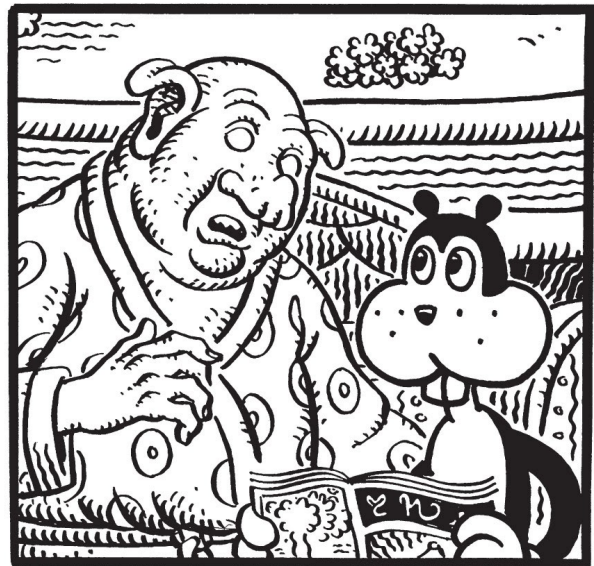




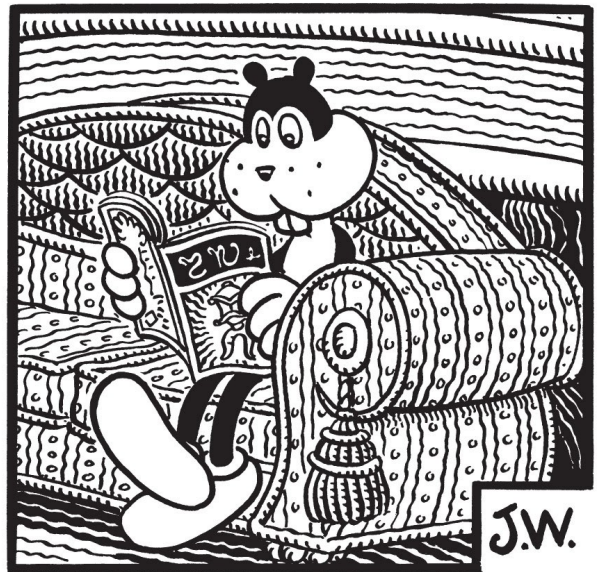
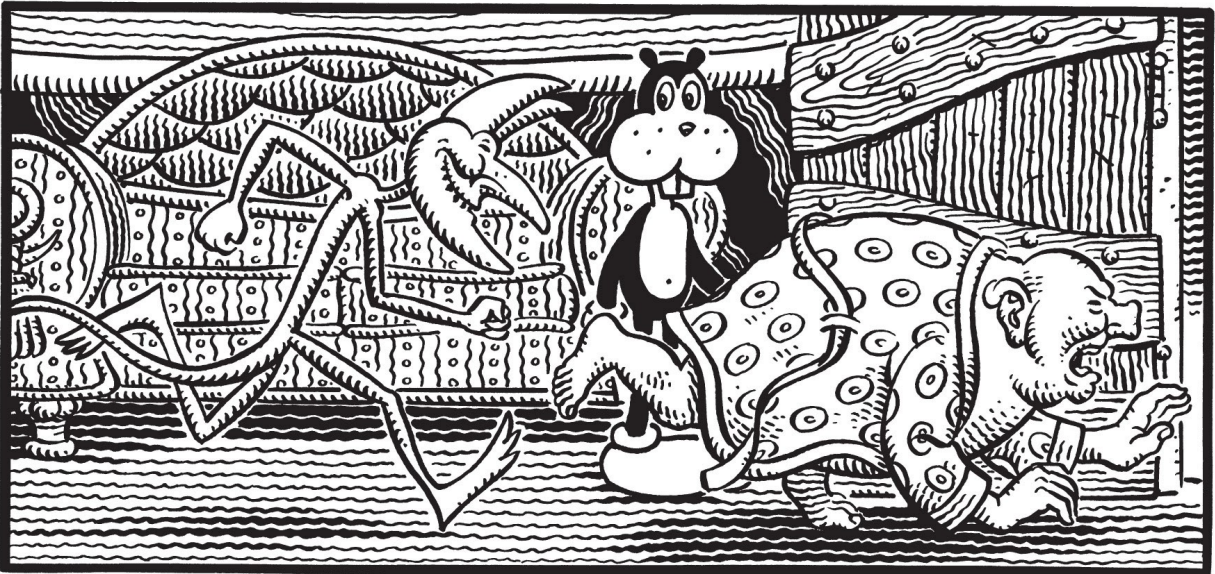
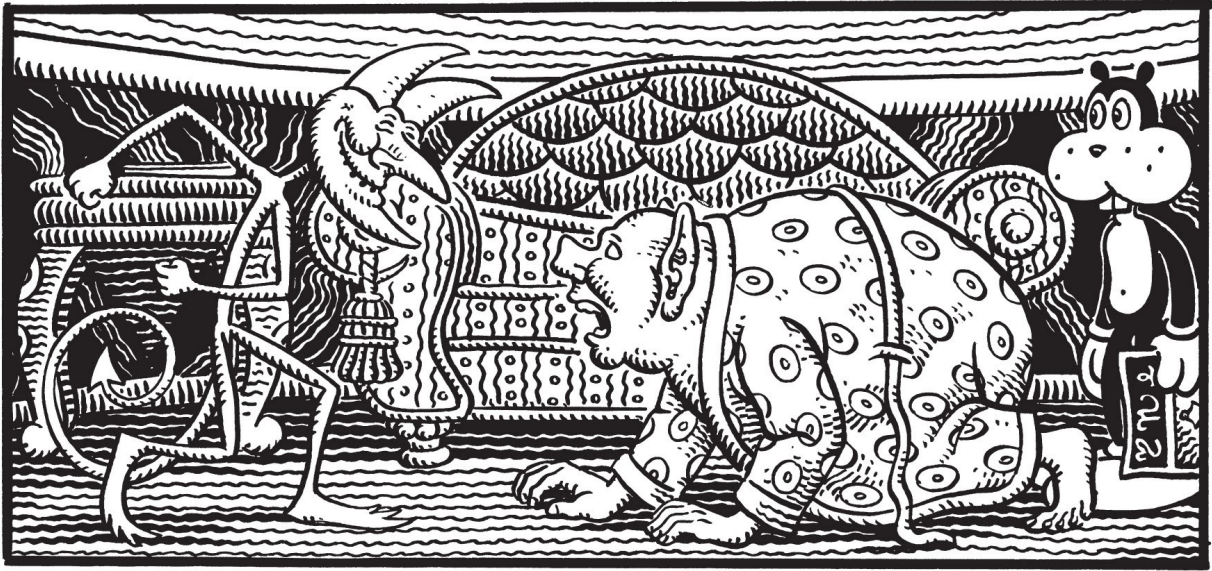














**Q: Must you be so mean to Manhog?**

**A:** Don't make the mistake of thinking that because you are privy to certain episodes in the grunter's checkered past you know the extent of his perfidy. Manhog deserves absolutely everything he gets in this story and more. But don't worry; he is in safe hands.

**Q: What is the nature of the awful power wielded by Whim in his temporary plant form?**

**A:** Whim's innate political heartlessness combines with the most powerful naturally-occurring hallucinogen to give him the ability to dissolve and abolish objective decorum, wrinkling the surface of consensus reality to an extent that he personally finds comfortable.

**Q: I note 100 uses of the all-encompassing-mystical identity. Shouldn't it be 108?**

**A:** Since there are 100 pages exactly the fudge factor has been eliminated.

**Q: I find Frank's behavior in this story appalling. Has he been corrupted or has this propensity for evil-doing been with him always?**

**A:** As usual, Frank responds to his environment by adopting the attitude that will bring him the most fun.

**Q: How can I learn the meaning of the tableaux that lead Manhog to his epiphany? The last one is obvious, but I can't follow the thread that leads to it. I'm frustrated!**

**A:** This is not something I want to discuss in public. Ask me the next time we meet.

**Q: What is the significance of the disgusting object below the drunken Jerry Chicken in the fifth panel of Manhog's series of expository visions?**

**A:** To put it as delicately as I can, the Jerry Chickens are all bachelors.

**Q: What is that awful creature that Whim ties Manhog's tail to? Is it one of the beasts of the Apocalypse?**

**A:** That is the well-known two-mouthed fear cow, and has no religious significance whatsoever.

**Q: Why does Manhog feel the need to stop that forced marriage? Since it was being performed by an educator and not a member of the clergy it would not have been legally binding anyway.**

**A:** Manhog realizes that the Faux Pa is unaware that the impending union will be illegitimate, and counts on his bringing a civil complaint to Whim, thereby revealing Whim's whereabouts. It works beautifully!

## Meet the cast of *Weathercraft*:



**Manhog**, an unholy hybrid of human ambivalence and porcine appetite whose craven yearning for creature comfort blights the land that feeds him. Manhog has a thick hide and is generally not troubled by life's vexations but he is ill-equipped to endure the special regimen of God-awful tortures and torments dished out by



**Whim**, the brittle-bodied biscuit-bastard and freelance animal research specialist whose every action spells trouble for someone, especially when he assumes the aspect of freshly-minted divinity. Whim's seeming inscrutability is an asset to this scheming politico who is determined to enslave every creature he encounters, including



**Frank**, the ignoble innocent who bends with the breeze, rolls with the punches and never learns tomorrow what he has already forgotten yesterday, again. Frank's ineducability is exasperating in the extreme to those who find themselves in the position of protecting him from the Unifactor's many unpleasant dangers, especially



**Pupshaw**, Frank's fantastically powerful demigodling pet and general factotum, whose strangely subservient attitude toward the gormless chuckbuster is one of life's cutest mysteries. Pupshaw is short-tempered and inclined to sudden and dreadful violence, which makes all the more attractive her intense romantic relationship with



**Pushpaw**, Pupshaw's number one inamorata and Frank's most ingratiating dependent. He'd gladly eat a whole sack of charcoal briquets if he thought it would help his friends. In fact he has done just that several times and never suffered so much as a bellyache. However, his powers of digestion are puny compared with those of



**"Betty and Veronica,"** which are our grossly inappropriate pet names for the unchristened hags whose mysterious agenda of welkin control brings about the devastating crisis at the heart of this story. Whatever their intentions may be, their probings into the dark heart of the shining realm spell trouble for all concerned!

Based on and continuing the celebrated *FRANK* comics, *Weathercraft* delves deeper than any previous story of its type into the fabric of the dense internal logic that governs the seemingly inexplicable events that occur in Jim Woodring's alternate universe, the Unifactor. Laden with symbolic visual language and bursting with half-hidden signs and portents, *Weathercraft* is a book that rewards successive readings with an unfolding structure of meaning that will enrich your waking and dreaming lives with a full, salutary compliment of "the furniture that glows without an echo."

"The artist has always used his or her inner 'stuff,' the very substance of the soul, mixing it with the subject's own essence and deriving droplets of imagery from this alchemy. Jim Woodring has taken the time and trouble to master the cartoonist's craft in order to express his vision of the universe in a way that any person in any culture can absorb." — Francis Ford Coppola

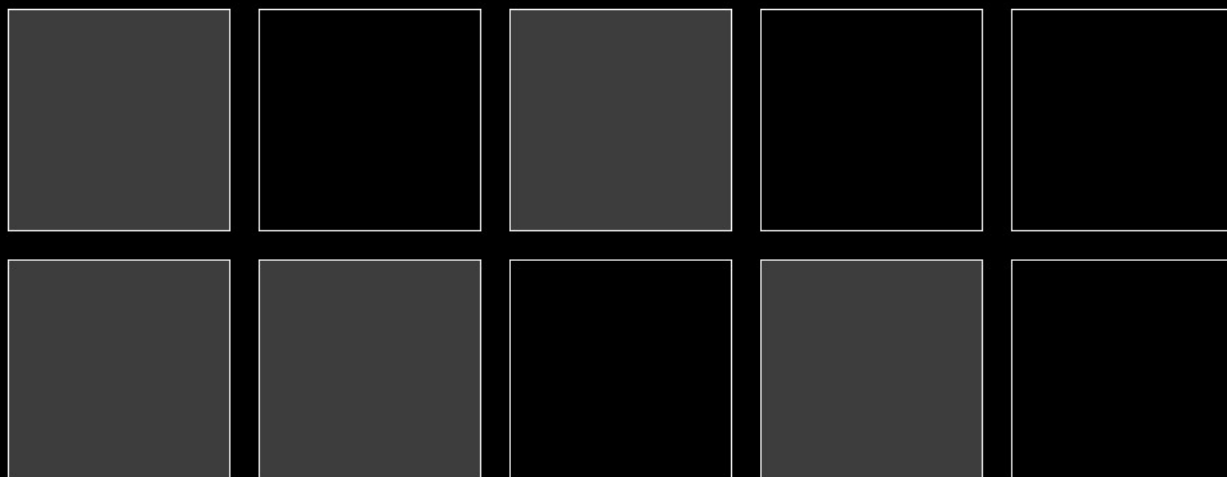
"*Frank*, and I say this without a shred of hyperbole, is a work of true genius by one of the all-time greats." — Daniel Clowes

"If there's another comic artist alive today who's trying to feel eternity within the universal rhythms, gestures and silent music of the corporeal, self-deluding persona, I don't want to hear about it. Jim Woodring has it covered." — Chris Ware

"Jim Woodring may be the most important cartoonist of his generation." — Scott McCloud







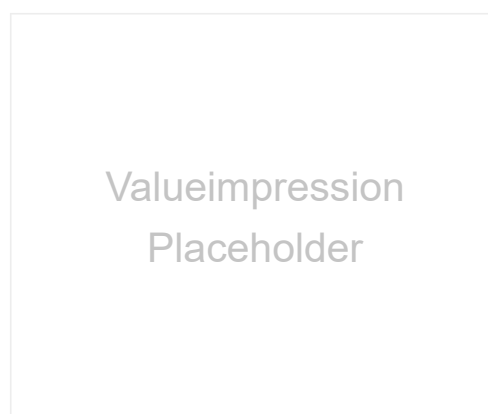
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